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Tuesday, December 16, 1980

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Rate of inflation doubles in 3 months

By SHLOMO MAOZ
Post Economic Reporter

The 9.4 per cent rise in the Consumer Price Index for November has pushed the annual inflation rate, based on figures of the last three months, to 190 per cent — double the previous three months. This emerged from figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The annual rate for the previous three-month period was 95 per cent. Over the past 12 months, the index has risen by 137.6 per cent.

Against this background, Finance Minister Yigal Hurvitz will present his economic programme to the cabinet today, in a continuation of the cabinet's discussion of next year's budget. When the cabinet began the budget discussions on Sunday, Hurvitz refused to reveal the details of his plan.

Yesterday an attempt was made by representatives of the Treasury and the Defence Ministry to reach an agreement on the scope of cuts in next year's defence budget. No progress was apparently made, and a final decision on this central item in the overall budget will rest with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, who is also defence minister.

Hurvitz is expected to ask that a detailed discussion of his plan and the decisions on specific budget cuts take place in the economic

cabinet, where his ability to push through decisions is greater.

The threat of a cabinet crisis has by no means passed, and could erupt over cuts in the defence budget or in other ministries' budgets, given Hurvitz's declared intention to stand fast on his demand for economic restraint.

One possibility raised is that an interim budget until the elections could be worked out as a compromise.

The Consumer Price Index rose by 119.8 per cent during the first 11 months of this year. This compares with last year's 12-month total of 111.4 per cent. The index now stands at 1,146.7 points, calculated on the 1976 basis of 100 points.

The wholesale price index rose by 7.5 per cent in November and 120.4 per cent since the beginning of the year. The index for construction inputs rose by 7.3 per cent last month and 120.9 per cent over 12 months. The index for agricultural inputs rose by 4.9 per cent and 139.1 per cent.

Consumer prices rose in all categories in November: food 9.7 per cent (65 per cent over the past 12 months), fruit and vegetables 6.1 (172), housing upkeep 13.2 (154), furniture 8.3 (127), clothing and footwear 9.5 (119.5), health 9 (146), education, culture and entertainment 6.6 (127), transport and posts 14.1 (147).

Pay to rise next month by 20%

By SHLOMO MAOZ
Post Economic Reporter

Salaried workers will receive a net raise of 20 per cent in their paycheques for January, to be paid in February, the Treasury said yesterday. The announcement closely followed the publication of the 9.4 per cent increase in the November Consumer Price Index.

Officials said that the rise in gross pay will be pegged at 21.6 per cent, covering a 27 per cent index increase during the last three months, over the preceding three-month period.

The Histadrut is expected to kick up a fight both with the Treasury and with the employers over the erosion of real wages.

The Histadrut will also demand an extra salary increase from employers to tide over workers until the scheduled pay rise in April 1981.

At the present rate of inflation, salaried workers will simply not be able to wait until the April rise comes up, the labour federation contends.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yehoram Meshel said yesterday that he will demand an interim wage agreement, including the extra raise, to supplement the present wage agreements.

The Treasury presently agrees only to adjustments in income tax brackets, and is not considering at this stage updating tax credit points or child allowances. This means that a worker earning less than IS2,700 per month will receive only the January pay rise, and will not benefit from any revisions in the tax structure.

Following are the adjusted income tax brackets announced by the Treasury yesterday, which go into effect next month: 25 per cent income tax on salaries up to IS3,500 (present monthly salary up to IS2,700); 35 per cent income tax on monthly salaries between IS3,501 and IS6,300 (present monthly salary of IS2,701 to IS5,000); 45 per cent tax on salaries between IS6,301 and IS7,500 (IS5,001 to IS5,900); 50 per cent tax on salaries between IS7,501 and IS9,800 (IS5,901 to IS7,700); and 60 per cent tax on salaries over IS9,800 (present monthly salary exceeding IS7,700).

The value of tax credit points will stand at the present IS111 per point. The maximum rise in monthly gross pay will be IS1,593, an increase of 21.6 per cent calculated at a salary ceiling of IS7,376.

The Treasury has calculated a net salary increase for January, based on the paycheque of a salaried worker, whose wife does not work, and who pays both income tax and compulsory National Insurance payments.

Following are the January salary increases, which will be paid in February: Those earning IS3,000 gross (IS2,449 net) will receive an increase of IS472 (19.3 per cent). Those earning IS4,000 gross (IS3,055 net) will receive an increase of IS603 (19.7 per cent). Those earning IS5,000 gross (IS3,661 net) will receive an increase of IS734 (20 per cent). Those earning IS6,000 gross (IS4,162 net) will receive an increase of IS871 (20.9 per cent). And those earning IS8,000 gross (IS5,044 net) will receive an increase of IS1,059 (21 per cent).

Linowitz bringing note from Sadat to Begin

Post Knesset Reporter
and Agencies

Prime Minister Menachem Begin said yesterday that the U.S., Egypt and Israel will probably issue a joint statement on the negotiations for Arab autonomy in Judea, Samaria and Gaza on Thursday, when U.S. envoy Sol Linowitz completes his present round of talks in the region.

Linowitz is in Cairo, and is coming to Jerusalem today with a message from President Anwar Sadat. Begin, briefing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, said that Linowitz originally proposed that the three governments present a joint report to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan on the state of the negotiations.

Israel did not favour this proposal, Begin said, since it would have required protracted discussions just to draft such a detailed report.

Linowitz yesterday conferred with Sadat for an hour.

The envoy said that he had given Sadat a farewell message from President Jimmy Carter and an assurance from Reagan that the incoming U.S. administration would support "the Camp David process" with no change — unless agreed to by Egypt and Israel.

Sadat told reporters that he had conveyed to Linowitz replies to both Carter and Reagan, adding that he had also entrusted the

Growing Knesset opposition to Golan Heights bills

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Reporter

The tide in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee appears to be turning against the idea of applying Israeli sovereignty to the Golan Heights.

At yesterday's committee session, seven MKs spoke against the two private bills calling for annexation of the Golan: one by the Tehiya faction, and the second by 17 coalition MKs.

Two MKs spoke in favour of annexing the Golan. One key parliamentarian, Yehuda Ben-Meir (National Religious) said he had

"very grave doubts" about the legislation.

Ben-Meir said in the committee yesterday: "I expect the government to tell us whether it favours annexing the Golan Heights, or not. I have very serious doubts about the bills. My final opinion will be influenced by whatever stand the government takes."

Begin said that the government would "discuss the Golan bills in due course" and denied that it had dodged taking a stand on the Jerusalem Law, also tabled by the Tehiya faction, when that bill went

Labour convention opens tomorrow Rabin camp threatens boycott

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Rabin supporters may boycott the selection of the Labour Party's central committee at the party convention that begins tomorrow. They claim that Peres backers intend cutting to the bone the number of Rabin men on the committee. The Jerusalem Post learned last night from knowledgeable sources in the Rabin camp.

Public attention will be on the personal showdown expected on Thursday between Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres and his challenger for the party leadership, former premier Yitzhak Rabin. But

the crucial battle between the warring sides will take place when the central committee is selected.

The committee is the party's most powerful body, since it chooses candidates for next year's Knesset and Histadrut elections. The committee has nearly 1,000 members.

If the Rabin people make good their threat, the convention may end in failure. The Peres supporters are determined to avert this and are doing their utmost to make a show of unity at the convention.

The boycott threat is interpreted as a signal to Peres that he agree to some kind of compromise in return for a closing of ranks after the convention.

The consensus in the Labour Party is that Peres' victory is a foregone conclusion, the only question being how large that victory will be.

In a move to assure themselves of greater representation on the all-important central committee, Rabin supporters are demanding that each side's seats on the committee be proportional to the number of votes that Peres and Rabin receive in the vote for party chairman.

The Peres people respond that such an arrangement would perpetuate factionalism and weaken the party in the coming Knesset elections. They propose that the convention pick one-third of the central committee, the balance to be chosen at a later date by branch delegates to the convention.

This is rejected by the Rabin supporters as ensuring a Peres majority



An "inflation balloon" with a caricature of Finance Minister Yigal Hurvitz floats high above the heads of Mapam Party members protesting outside the Treasury building in Jerusalem at sundown yesterday against the rapidly rising inflation. Similar demonstrations were also held in other parts of the country. (Zoom 77)

PLO steps up attempts to infiltrate in North

Jerusalem Post Staff

Soldiers of the Norwegian contingent of UNIFIL intercepted before dawn yesterday a gang of terrorists east of Marjayoun, in Lebanese territory, some five kilometres north of Metulla. This is the second day running that Arab gangs have attempted, unsuccessfully, to infiltrate into Israel from South Lebanon, indicating stepped-up PLO activity in the area.

The gangs were sent on their missions by their headquarters in Beirut, The Jerusalem Post learns from top level sources in South Lebanon.

On Sunday night, one group of terrorists was repelled by an Israeli army patrol west of Moshav Zarit, on the Lebanese border. One infiltrator was killed in the operation.

At the same time, a group of five terrorists tried to reach Israel through the area held by the Dutch UNIFIL contingent. The UNIFIL soldiers caught them, confiscated their arms, and drove them to Tyre where they were released.

Major Sa'ad Haddad, Christian militia commander in South Lebanon, told The Post yesterday that terrorists have penetrated the area held by the Fij UNIFIL contingent and are setting up positions there.

Premier and Defence Minister Menachem Begin referred to Sunday night's incidents during a meeting yesterday with the commander of UNTSO, General Erkki Kaira. Begin said the incidents demonstrated the PLO's designs to attack Israeli border settlements and generally to step up tension and violence in the area.

The meeting, at Begin's office in Jerusalem, had been arranged some time ago and was in the nature of a courtesy call and a general discussion of regional developments. The Finnish general aired the UN's longstanding grievances against Haddad, who restricts UNIFIL supply traffic through the Christian enclaves to certain days of the week. Begin gave no commitment but said the matter would be examined.

UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim also speaks of "continued harassment" of UNIFIL personnel by Haddad's forces in his semi-annual report on UNIFIL submitted to the Security Council this week, in advance of the renewal of the force's mandates.

But Israeli observers have been gratified to note that Waldheim's report this time contains some very

Minister agrees to lifting of immunity

Abuhatzzeira to be tried within a month

By YORAM BAR
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abuhatzzeira is expected to go on trial within a month on charges of bribe-taking, according to a senior source in the Justice Ministry.

Abuhatzzeira yesterday requested the Knesset House Committee to lift his immunity, and later announced that he would be taking a leave of absence from his cabinet post, as of next Monday.

The source added that State Attorney Gavriel Bach, who will be the prosecutor in the trial, has agreed to Abuhatzzeira's request to speed up legal proceedings in the case.

A tense silence prevailed for 45 minutes in the Knesset House Committee yesterday afternoon as Abuhatzzeira addressed his fellow MKs. Only at the end of his statement did he request that the committee lift his immunity, since "only a court can clear me of the fabricated charges that have been levelled against me."

"After four months during which I have remained mute, I would be doing myself an injustice if I did not now speak of the things that have been troubling me and explained why I have kept silent until now," said Abuhatzzeira in quiet, measured tones.

"Three years ago," he continued, "when I took office as minister, a prominent public figure visited me and warned me that 'they're out to get you.' I didn't believe it at first, but later, as I said to the attorney-general, it didn't make sense that a man not close to me would tell me (for no reason) that Binyamin Segal of the police Fraud Department is out to get me."

"Now I know that I was under police surveillance for more than a year. They asked about all sorts of things and not too discreetly. The entire investigation was based on false information provided by my political opponents," Abuhatzzeira said.

"Later the police staged a 'raid' on the Ministry of Religious Affairs. I was told that it was only going to be a discreet examination of certain documents, but the following day I read in the papers that the police showed up with 10 policemen and two trucks."

Abuhatzzeira said that the police gave out semi-official information

during the investigation, thus creating an atmosphere of a public lynching. The police conducted a campaign against me with a single end — to send me to prison, he said.

He said that when he fired Yisrael Lippel, the director-general of his ministry, Lippel told certain people that the police were investigating certain affairs, and that if they wanted to save their necks, they had better testify against the minister.

"The daily flood of leaks from the police turned me into the biggest criminal in the country, with 30 cases against me. They thought they would be able to break me the way they broke others."

Unable to contain his emotions towards the end of his statement, Abuhatzzeira raised his voice and said, "It's all a baseless fabrication. I will prove my innocence in court."

After the committee session, Abuhatzzeira told reporters that he holds no grudge against anyone in his Likud Ultema faction in the National Religious Party. "I can only feel sorry for certain members of the faction, and I hope that one day I will be able to forgive them for the terrible things they did to me."

In answer to a question, the minister said that friends are helping him meet legal expenses, and that he is happy to find that he still has many friends and supporters.

The Knesset Committee is due to continue its deliberations on lifting Abuhatzzeira's immunity today and tomorrow. The committee vote will take place, at Abuhatzzeira's request, next Monday.

Committee chairman Moshe Meron said that next Tuesday he would convey the committee's recommendation to the Knesset plenum, which probably would decide on Wednesday to allow Abuhatzzeira to stand trial, as he had requested.

Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir responded to piercing questions by several committee members, who argued that it was police leaks to the press that had prompted Zamir to press charges against Abuhatzzeira.

Yehuda Ben-Meir (NRP) said that it was inconceivable to press charges on so serious a matter, based solely on the testimony of a state's witness like Beni Brak.

Zamir flatly rejected these allegations. The press performed its function in the framework of the law, he said. "It's true that rough things were printed, but these harmed the investigation as well as the minister."

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Marty Isaacs, author of "Marty's Walking Tours in Biblical Jerusalem" will speak about "Digging in Biblical Jerusalem."

Jerusalem Plaza Hotel, Rehov King George.

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Gdansk jittery over unveiling ceremony today

GDANSK (UPI). — More than 200,000 people were expected to attend the unveiling today of a monument to Polish workers killed in food riots in 1970. Ceremony organizers call it the "beginning of unity in the nation."

City officials, jittery over the huge crowds and the emotions connected with the 1970 riots, banned all sales of alcohol for three days in this Baltic port city.

The Soviet Union indicated that it saw no threat from Poland's economic and political reforms to the country's position within the Communist bloc alliance.

But it indicated that it saw a continuing danger to stability in Poland from western support for anti-communists there.

The indirect formulation of the latest Soviet view on the situation came in the presentation by the Moscow press of a weekend speech by Stanislaw Kanja, the Polish party leader.

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AMSTERDAM	2-8	4-10	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	5-11	10-15	Cloudy
BIRMINGHAM	10-15	15-20	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	8-13	13-18	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	8-13	13-18	Cloudy
GENEVA	8-13	13-18	Cloudy
HELSINKI	2-8	4-10	Cloudy
HONG KONG	17-23	23-29	Cloudy
JAKARTA	23-29	29-35	Cloudy
LONDON	5-11	11-16	Cloudy
MADRID	2-8	12-18	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-1-5	5-10	Cloudy
NEW YORK	4-10	10-15	Cloudy
OSLO	2-8	8-13	Cloudy
PARIS	7-13	13-18	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	21-27	27-33	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	20-26	26-32	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	1-7	7-12	Cloudy
TOKYO	2-8	11-16	Cloudy
TORONTO	2-8	11-16	Cloudy
VIENNA	2-8	11-16	Cloudy
ZURICH	6-12	12-18	Cloudy

For the latest weather conditions, contact Reuters.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy, with intermittent showers.

Location	Rainfall	Yesterday's Temp.	Today's Temp.
Jerusalem	2.0	5-10	10
Golan	0.6	6-11	10
Nahariya	0.6	9-18	17
Safed	2.0	5-9	9
Haifa Port	2.0	12-17	17
Tiberias	2.0	9-16	16
Nazareth	2.0	9-16	16
Afula	2.0	7-15	15
Shomron	0.4	7-13	12
Tel-Aviv	0.2	10-15	15
B-G Airport	—	8-14	15
Jericho	—	9-16	16
Gaza	—	12-16	16
Beersheva	0.2	10-15	15
Eilat	—	7-21	20
Tiran Straits	—	12-20	20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Camelia Shahr of the Ladino department of Israel Radio was yesterday presented with the prestigious EFE prize at Beit Hanassi by Luis Maria Anson, president of the Spanish/International EFE News Agency in Madrid. She received the \$8,000 award in the presence of President Yitzhak Navon for a radio show she made about an old-age club.

The wife of the president, Ofira Navon, attended a graduation ceremony yesterday at Beit Elisheva for 50 East Jerusalem women who completed Na'amat courses in dressmaking and hairdressing.

Moshe Sanbar, chairman of the board of governors of the Habimah national theatre, will step down from his post at the end of the month. A committee has been appointed to propose candidates for the job.

Basketball results

Last night's National League basketball results (13th round):
Ramat Gan Hap.-Ramat Gan Maccabi 106-72
Gan Shmuel Hapoel-Holon Hapoel 83-82
Tel Aviv Mac.-Afula Hap. 105-91
Upper Galilee Hap.-Tel Aviv Elitzur 90-57

RABIN BOYCOTT

(Continued from page one)
on the committee, because most party branches have Peres majorities.
Meanwhile, party members in Holon yesterday picked their convention delegates for the second time, following allegations of irregularities in the ballot counting the first time round last November 25.

Party leaders are disappointed that Socialist International head Willy Brandt and his deputy, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, will not be coming to the convention. Apparently, they do not want to visit Jerusalem where the festive opening ceremony will take place.

Also to be absent from the Jerusalem opening will be the Egyptian dignitaries, led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. They are expected, however, to be present at the convention's business sessions which begin on Thursday morning in the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv.

German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who has also declined an invitation to the convention, has invited Peres to visit Germany sometime in January.

Urgent Appeal to All Warmhearted Jews

One of Jerusalem's large families has been left without a roof over its head after a fire destroyed its meagre home. The family was left destitute and helpless. The disaster and crisis that followed in its wake, have led to an urgent campaign to offer assistance to the young Torah scholar-breadwinner and his brood of tiny tots.
Everyone interested in performing this mitzvah and assisting in the rehabilitation of the family, is requested to contact the Luzzatto Yerushalayim large charity enterprise at 8 Rehov Zephaniah, P.O.B. 3838, Jerusalem, or to phone 02-266394.
May you be strengthened in your good deeds!

HOME & WORLD NEWS

High school teachers threaten to strike

By BENNY MORRIS
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The country's secondary school teachers today will announce a labour dispute and threaten to close down all post-primary schools from January 1, despite a last-minute government concession announced yesterday.

The Secondary School Teachers Association, whose members staff the country's junior high schools and high schools, are declaring the dispute to protest government delays in implementing the recommendations of the Etzioni Commission report, submitted to Education Minister Zevulun Hammer in December 1979.

The commission, established after the 1978 teachers' strike, was appointed to investigate working conditions and status of teachers. Its major recommendation was to set up a comprehensive 15-grade pay scale for all the country's teachers and to raise their salaries by 30 to 60 percent to bring them into line with salaries of other similarly qualified professions, such as civil service engineers.

Hammer yesterday requested the cabinet secretary to put the Etzioni Commission recommendations on the agenda for the cabinet meeting of December 28. According to a ministry spokesman, Hammer had earlier this year promised the teachers to bring the matter before the cabinet by the end of this month.

But a teachers' association spokesman said yesterday that Hammer had promised already in January 1979 to bring the matter before the cabinet "when the Etzioni Commission submits its report," and that a full year has passed since the report was submitted. Finance Minister Yigael Hurvitz has consistently opposed any cabinet review of the recommendations, fearing that the outcome would be large increases in teachers' pay.

Hammer yesterday assured the teachers that the committee headed by Education Minister Director-General Eliezer Shmueli, charged with finding ways to implement the Etzioni recommendations, will submit its conclusions to him by the end of the month.

"Only harm can be caused to the teachers' cause by declaring a labour dispute now," warned Hammer.

The Histadrut Teachers Union, whose members are mostly kindergarten and primary school teachers, has not yet decided whether to join the secondary school teachers in the labour dispute and strike threat.

The secondary school teachers yesterday called for urgent meetings with Hammer and Civil Service Commission representatives to discuss the delay in implementing the Etzioni Commission recommendations.

University lecturers out on strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter
No lectures will be held today in the country's six universities, as lecturers and professors hold a one-day strike to protest "foot-dragging" over their pay claims. But they will also stop preparing and marking examination papers until their demands are met.

A spokesman for the lecturers said yesterday that discussion of the 1980-1982 pay agreement for junior

and senior lecturers had been put off for months by the government and the university heads.

He added that despite a written undertaking in the summer of 1979, the university heads have failed to set up a committee to look into the lecturers' claim that their pay has greatly eroded over the past decade. The committee, comprising lecturers and government and university representatives, was to have begun work by November 1979.

El Al sacks 63 workers, staff appeals to court

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter
BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — El Al yesterday fired 63 employees and told 220 others that they must go on three-month leave, some of it without pay.

The workers and the Histadrut said that the dismissals violated labour contracts, and planned to appeal to the labour court. Late last night for restraining orders against the management.

The dismissals are part of an overall plan to revive the airline which has lost more than \$300 million during the past three years. Management wants to cut its staff by 585 by the end of December, and 120 workers have already quit in order to qualify for increased severance pay — they get an additional 4 per cent for every year they worked for the airline.

The 63 dismissed employees were summoned to their bosses yesterday morning and told they had to go. The formal letters were sent yesterday afternoon.

According to a senior management source, some of the dismissed employees had not done any work

for the past several years. Staff committee members said the dismissals were arbitrary. Rami Fischer, representing the workshop staff, said managers took the opportunity to get rid of subordinates they disliked. "In my department there is an employee who hasn't worked for years but he's not on the list," Fischer said.

The staff did not dispute the enforced three-month leave, as this had been agreed to in negotiations with the Histadrut.

Staff committee leaders consulted with the Histadrut and agreed to appeal to the labour court. The appeal is based on the labour contracts, which rule out unilateral action and provide that disputes between management and labour — over dismissals, for example — be brought to arbitration.

El Al's president Yitzhak Shander yesterday conceded that management had taken unilateral action, thereby violating the letter of the agreement, but a management announcement issued last night said "in view of the company's financial situation there is no alternative."

GOLAN HEIGHTS BILLS

(Continued from page one)
through the Knesset. In the discussion, Yosef Sarid (Alignment-Labour) said the government should not delude itself that it could hide once again behind the plea that the Knesset was sovereign to discuss and legislate whatever it wanted on matters of state.

Menahem Savidor (Likud-Liberal) said the Golan Heights legislation was a total violation of the Likud platform, which called for peace negotiations with Syria as well as Egypt and ruled out all prior conditions.

"The Golan Law presents the Syrians with a fait accompli and constitutes a prior condition," Savidor said. Avraham Katz (Likud-Liberal) said the Knesset could cause irreparable harm by rushing into a Golan law.

Amnon Rubinstein (Shinui) said the future of the Golan had to be determined according to the interests of the State of Israel, and not of the settlers on the spot. Abba Eban (Alignment-Labour) said "Knesset sovereignty is no substitute for government responsibility."

Zerah Warhaftig (NRP) said

"The Golan law is an enormous mistake. It should be put away and forgotten. Whether the Knesset passes it or rejects it, it can only cause the country harm."

Binyamin Halevi (Democratic Movement) said: "Jerusalem and the Golan Heights are in two totally different categories. An international boundary ran below the Golan Heights. There was no international boundary through Jerusalem. We may not agree to withdraw to the old international boundary, but whatever the case, a new boundary must be decided by negotiations only."

Meir Talmi (Alignment-Mapam) said there was a de facto national consensus approving settlement on the Golan Heights, which the Golan bills would shatter. "My party will be forced to disagree and quit the de facto consensus, if the Knesset passes a Golan law to make settlement de jure," Talmi said.

Rabbi Haim Druckman (NRP) said the world uproar in the wake of the Jerusalem Law soon died down, and so would an uproar in the wake of the Golan law.

Yosef Rom (Likud-Herut) said the time was ripe to annex the Golan Heights now. He advised Labour "not to pander to Egypt."

SADAT TO BEGIN

(Continued from page one)
American envoy with the delivery of a "third message" to Prime Minister Begin. He did not divulge any details.

"I was once again impressed by the commitment... of President Sadat, and his assurance that he is deeply devoted to do what he can to move the autonomy discussions

forward," Linowitz said. He added that he still hoped negotiations would pick up momentum following his talks with Sadat and Begin.

In another development, Begin said that although U.S. Senator Charles Percy claimed he had been misquoted on the PLO issue during his recent Moscow visit, "we know that Percy's fundamental approach is to conceive a state for the Palestine Arabs as a valid proposal."

Begin said that conversations with American officials in Reagan's team had encouraged Israel to assume that the president-elect's rejection of the PLO as a partner for consultation or negotiation has not changed in any way. The premier said he had received "hundreds of telegrams from Israeli Arabs" congratulating him for the government decision a fortnight ago to ban the Arab congress in Nazareth.

Was invasion of Lahat's office justified?

For close to three hours yesterday, the Knesset discussed the question of whether the end justifies the means. No fewer than seven members presented motions for the agenda on "The Demonstration of Hatikva Quarter Young People in the Office of the Mayor of Tel Aviv."

The motions referred to the incident two weeks ago when some 30 members of Elia (Citizens for Hatikva) boarded up the exits from Mayor Shlomo Lahat's office and held him and other officials hostage for about 45 minutes. Policemen had to untangle the demonstrators from the chains with which they had tied themselves to the furniture, and then dragged them out and arrested them.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg rejected the plea that the police forgive the trespassers ("Don't treat them as criminals, close their files, show understanding," the Alignment's Tamar Eshel had urged. She duly denounced the action of the Elia group, but was more interested in getting an investigation of alleged police brutality.)

Not even making an attempt at even-handedness were Uri Averbach (Sheli), Charlie Biton (Democratic

Front), Geula Cohen (Tehiya), and Sa'adia Marciano (Independent). As they saw it, the Elia advance party, who were discussing with Lahat their demand for direct financial support, sat quietly, lit Hanukkah candles, and sang songs, but Lahat's intransigence left them no choice but to wreak havoc.

In varying degrees, they focused their attention on Israel's social problems in general, and Project Renewal in particular.

"No Israeli government has been able to solve our social problem," Marciano said. And he charged some municipalities — Jerusalem for one — with being lukewarm on Project Renewal for fear that the Likud would get the credit if it succeeded.

But it was Geula Cohen who made the bitterest attack on Project Renewal, which aims, with the aid of Jewish communities abroad, to rehabilitate slum neighbourhoods. "Project Renewal was a mistake from the very start," she said. "These neighbourhoods don't need renewal; they need bulldozers — and the residents should be resettled elsewhere."

Yitzhak Yitzhaki (One Israel) deplored violence on both sides, while the only coalition deputy who

spoke, Sara Stern-Katan (National Religious Party), in a hard-hitting speech said that even if Lahat had erred here and there in dealing with Elia, their sit-in had done much to destroy the mayoral institution, and that could not be forgiven.

Burg sneered at the idyllic picture some of the speakers had drawn of the events in Lahat's office and the view that it had been legitimate for them to "dramatize" Hatikva's plight.

"Day after day, local council chairmen are physically attacked, and so are deputy mayors and social workers. Threats are uttered, hands are raised, chairs are lifted up menacingly."

It would be short-sighted to be lenient towards the Elia trespassers, he said. But he agreed that the motions go to committee, and they were so referred.

Several speakers in the debate found fault with the fact that the minister of police (i.e., Burg) was going to reply to the motions, rather than Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, who has overall responsibility for Project Renewal, or Education Minister Zevulun Hammer (the latter was Yitzhaki's idea).

Yadin, who had followed the

debate from the beginning, and these speakers by supplementing Burg's reply with one of his own step that is in keeping with Knesset rules but is rarely exercised.

Yadin said that all previous governments had left the question of urban renewal to the minister, not understanding the inter-disciplinary nature of the problem. It had taken time for present government to form an inter-ministerial committee, was now functioning.

Addressing Geula Cohen, Yadin said: "You want bulldozers, but residents want to stay where they are."

Cohen (contemptuously) "want!"

Yadin listed a number of achievements of Project Renewal, giving university scholarships to 2,500 students who undertake community work in neighbourhoods several hours from their homes.

But that's not "news," Yadin said, so it goes unreported. You notice that the TV crew left day after two or three speakers spoken? They saw that it was quiet."



Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abutzeira (left), House Committee chairman Moshe Meron and Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir at the committee meeting yesterday in which Abutzeira announced he is willing to forgo his parliamentary immunity. (Zoom 77)

UN Assembly vote asks for sanctions against Israel

Jerusalem Post Correspondent and agencies

UNITED NATIONS. — The UN General Assembly yesterday adopted, by large majorities, five resolutions — challenging Israel's West Bank policies and calling on the Security Council to consider sanctions against Israel.

A resolution, calling for Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories occupied since the Six Day War and reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish their own independent state, was passed by 98 to 16, with 32 abstentions.

Another part of the draft said that Security Council resolution 242, which set peace guidelines after the 1967 war, "does not provide for the future and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people."

The paragraph calling for council sanctions was endorsed in a separate vote by 94 to 19. There were 34 abstentions.

The resolution was the most im-

portant of five dealing with the Palestinian question adopted yesterday following a debate on the subject earlier this month.

Other resolutions reaffirmed the assembly's rejection of the Camp David accord, and strongly censured Israel for passing the Jerusalem Law. By a vote of 143 to one against (Israel), with four abstentions (Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Malawi and the U.S.), the assembly called the legislation and related actions a violation of international law.

In Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry spokesman "categorically rejected these resolutions." Their entire purpose, the spokesman added, was to make the Middle East peace process even more difficult. "Israel will persist in its peace efforts to the best of its ability despite the obstacles which the UN has put in its path." The spokesman asserted that the general assembly resolutions had been "drafted by the PLO."

Aridor raps Katz for 'foot-dragging'

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Deputy Minister Yoram Aridor (Herut) yesterday blamed Labour and Social Affairs Minister Israel Katz (Democratic Movement) for dragging his feet on social legislation. Katz, in turn, blamed the delays on the Liberals.

Aridor faulted Katz for having managed to pass only one of six measures proposed in the coalition agreement three years ago — the minimum income law. He was speaking at the Likud faction ex-

ecutive. Katz, who was not present but spoke later to reporters, said the Liberal wing of the Likud had consistently blocked effective action to get the other social legislation measures through the Knesset.

Katz said it was up to the Likud to put its house in order instead of putting the blame elsewhere. The Liberal MKs on the committees handling the social legislation did not bother to attend meetings, Katz charged.

Never to be forgotten

RABBI SHLOMO J. MENORA ז"ל

son of Haim Mordecai passed away on November 17, 1980.

A great man, now lost to his many friends, family and society. He came to Israel in 1948. He was a teacher and a writer. He wrote a new logic and interpretation on the Bible. His first book, "Be'reshit", was printed in Israel in 1978. Rabbi Shlomo Menora ז"ל was honoured, respected and loved by all who knew him, especially the congregation of Rabbi Marcus ז"ל.

The Ashara will take place at the Beit Knesset Rabbi Marcus ז"ל 132 Ibn Gvirol, Tel Aviv, tonight, December 18, 1980 at 7 p.m.

We share the grief of our colleague

Deeb Maroun

on the passing of his

FATHER

and express our condolences to him and his family.

Pas Oil Company Ltd.
Management and Staff

To Norman Fox and Family

We share your grief on the untimely death of

ARYEH

Kibbutz Nirim

Assad in Tripoli to revive Syria-Libya merger talks

BEIRUT (Reuters). — Syrian President Hafez Assad arrived in Tripoli yesterday for talks with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi about an agreed merger between their two countries.

Syria and Libya declared themselves a single state on September 10, nine days after Gaddafi proposed the merger of the two Arab hardliners.

A 14-point proclamation issued in Tripoli during an earlier visit to the Libyan capital by Assad pledged full political, economic and military union.

But since then, the merger was reported here to have run into difficulties, and a planned visit by Gaddafi to Syria to discuss details of the union never took place.

Now Assad has taken a top-level delegation with him to Libya, including his prime minister, foreign minister, in an apparent attempt to work out practical ways of implementing the union accord.

Major problems include the unified state and the foreign policy it will follow.

Both Western and Arab diplomats in Beirut have rated the chances of success as low, citing host of previous abortive merger attempts.

The merger was proposed by Gaddafi in an apparent move to strengthen the radical wing of the Arab states, and informed Arab sources here said the Syrian president will be pressing for great financial backing from Tripoli.

Disputes disrupt radio, TV

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Television programmes were cut off for an hour and Kol Yisrael radio broadcasts were interrupted for more than six hours yesterday for three different reasons: work stoppages by the postal engineers, a lock-out order that Communications Minister Yitzhak Mordechai issued in reaction to the stoppages and an unrelated strike of Kol Israel technicians.

The radio stations were silenced in most parts of the country after the 8 a.m. news broadcasts when more than 4,000 postal engineers and technicians stopped work to hold "explanatory" meetings in various centres. The meetings were held to protest the work conditions proposed for a new public telecommunications company.

When the engineers returned to work at around 10 a.m., they were confronted with an order from Modai ordering the closure of all the broadcasting stations. But four hours later Modai revoked the order after an appeal from Histadrut trade union chairman Yisrael Kessar.

The telephone repair service also ceased working during the six hours.

In the evening, the Jerusalem area postal engineers, who control television broadcasting, went ahead with their explanatory meeting.

After an appeal from Kessar, they agreed to end the stoppage an hour earlier than planned, at 9 p.m.

In a separate dispute, technicians of the Broadcasting Authority, off the 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. radio magazine programmes. The technicians are protesting the management's refusal to allow Kol Yisrael shortwave programmes to be broadcast to the Diaspora from radio's studio in Tel Aviv. The Organization programmes are currently broadcast from a private Jerusalem studio with outside assistance.

Officers 'pressured to donate to fund'

Regular officers in the IDF have refused to contribute to the Israel Defence Fund have had their letters of refusal inserted into their personal files at General Headquarters, Ze'ev Katz (Alignment-Labour) alleged yesterday in parliamentary question submitted to the defence minister.

The fund was initiated by Chief Staff Rav-Aluf Rafael Eitan and intended to finance army education projects.

Katz asked the defence minister to order that such practices be halted, and asked why officers are not asked to contribute on a voluntary basis.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of my dear husband, our father and grandfather

MOSHE JAACOB LITENATSKY ז"ל

The funeral took place Monday, December 5, 1980

The bereaved:
His Wife Gittel (Tova)
His Son Rabbi Ze'ev Litensky and family (Los Angeles)
His Daughter Shoshana Ben David and family from Degania Bet.

Shiva at the home of the deceased, 8 Yaacov Cohen St. (10 Hakevut St.), Jerusalem

The Directress and Staff of the National Insurance Institute in Nazareth, share the grief of

Mohammed Saleh

on the death of his

FATHER ז"ל

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

SARAH BASKER ז"ל

The funeral will take place in Rehovot at 2.30 p.m. on December 18, 1980.

The Bereaved Family

Our deepest sympathy to the BASKER family on the passing of their dear mother and grandmother

SARAH

Beit Tharim

1.50 / 1.50

HOME NEWS

justified? stolen Toras are smuggled, sold to synagogues abroad

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Religious Affairs Ministry warned Diaspora rabbis against purchasing Tora scrolls that may have been stolen from Israeli synagogues.

Police have asked customs agents at Ben-Gurion Airport to check carefully all Tora scrolls being imported into the country.

There has been a wave of synagogue break-ins lately and, according to the ministry, the burglars specialize in the stealing and smuggling of Tora scrolls.

The ministry recently began to print the scrolls with a special ink, with approval of the Chief Rabbi.

The identifying mark is permanent. But because most synagogue officials refuse to bring the scrolls to the ministry for registration and imprinting, the ministry experts have to visit each synagogue.

"Because of staff shortages and the complex process of marking the scrolls," said a ministry source, "we have reached only a few thousand of the tens of thousands of scrolls around the country."

"Dozens of scrolls have been stolen in recent weeks from synagogues in Ashkelon, Ashdod, Nazareth and Gedera. The price of a scroll, which takes a year for a scribe to produce, reaches over \$500,000."

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But one of the firemen in Beersheba, Shmuel Talker, aged 36, claimed that the men had never felt better than while in the tent. "It was the first time for years that I haven't suffered from headaches and vomiting," he said. "The only reason we went back is because the Histadrut stopped supporting us and we would have been sacked."

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Beersheba firemen quit tent; fumes still a bother

By ARYEH WOLMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Local firemen, back at their station after abandoning it two months ago because of leaking gas from the adjacent Mikhshim chemical plant, again complained yesterday that chlorine fumes from the plant were causing them headaches and stinging eyes.

The 35 firemen have been demanding for many years to be moved away from the chemical plant. Two months ago they set up temporary headquarters in an army tent near the entrance to the municipality after four of them were hospitalized when they inhaled leaking gas from Mikhshim.

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Ailing Avi Cohen bows out of Lisbon World Cup game

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The national team to play Portugal in a World Cup soccer match in Lisbon tomorrow night will be without Avi Cohen, Israel's star defender now playing for Liverpool.

Cohen came down with a high fever last Saturday, and Liverpool's club doctor has ruled bed rest for the player. Cohen yesterday telephoned to Michael Aimog, the Football Association chairman, and expressed his regret at not being able to play for Israel tomorrow night.

Israel's other three professionals — Vicky Peretz, of Strasbourg, Ya'acov Cohen and Moshe Gariani of Brighton — joined the Israel team in Lisbon on Sunday. There also remained a doubt yesterday about the fitness of left back Cohen.

The absence of Avi Cohen has come as a major blow to the national team squad and to soccer fans here. He could have played a key role in the Israel defense, and excels at taking the team out of defense into counter-attack. And for fans, Cohen adds a touch of glamour to the Israel team.

Cohen's replacement is likely to be Shlomo Kirat, the Bnei Yehuda right back. If Ya'acov Cohen is also unfit, Noah Einstein, the Kfar Sava left back, will get a place in the side.

The Portuguese have switched the venue from the Sporting Lisbon to the Benfica Stadium in Lisbon, reportedly because nine of the Portugal team are Benfica players. The game kicks off at 11.30 p.m. Israel time and will be refereed by an Italian.

In World Cup qualifying games, the current standings in European Group Six are:

Country	Games	G	P	A
Scandinavia	2	10	3	3
Portugal	2	6	3	3
No. Ireland	3	3	1	3
Israel	4	1	1	3
Sweden	4	1	5	2

Suspect freed on bail in attempted murder

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A 57-year-old Givatayim man arrested last week on suspicion of attempting to murder his wife was released yesterday on \$2,000 bail. He was also ordered to stay away from Givatayim for 10 days.

Police claimed in court yesterday that the suspect, Matityahu Taub, tried to murder his wife Genia after she found out that he had had a mistress for the last five years.

The victim has not been questioned yet because she has not recovered sufficiently from the attempt on her life.

Illegal workers from Philippines Tribulations of having a maid

Carmela A. and her husband Yossi live in a six-room flat in North Tel Aviv and own a small, flourishing restaurant near Jaffa. Several years ago it became clear to them that to make the business succeed, both would have to work from noon until midnight or later. They hired a live-in Israeli housekeeper.

Judge Boris Rappoport rejected the claim of two families living near the cafe — which is reopening on the second storey of its old premises — that it would be a public nuisance and lower the value of their property because of the noise and the smells. The judge, who visited the site, commented that the smells from the cake shop would overcome the less pleasant odours emanating from nearby felafl stands, steak shops and pizza parlours. Besides, Dizengoff Street is so noisy anyway that a cafe won't make any difference, he said.

The judge added, however, that if circumstances change the families can appeal to the court.

"It wasn't that I am very demanding or that the work was so hard," says Carmela. "But the girls all had personal problems. They were all from broken or unhappy homes. It was even true of the kibbutzniks, who it turned out, were not born on the kibbutz, but educated there because they couldn't remain with their families. They weren't very stable, and I was afraid to leave my children in their care. The one we did find, who was more or less acceptable, wouldn't commit herself to remain with us for even six months. I never knew for sure that she just wouldn't up and leave."

Carmela said that the situation put her under great pressure and the tension at home was affecting the children.

"We had considered taking in a Philippine maid once before. Our neighbour has one she brought over through a London-based employ-

NEWSBEAT

Joan Borsten

ment agency — the type where you order a girl selected from a catalogue which has the pictures of all candidates and a brief biography. But my husband objected. We're not the type to have servants. We both come from socialist homes and it just didn't seem natural. But finally it was either that, or I would have to quit work."

Rather than deal with an employment agency, Carmela contacted an Israeli friend who frequently travels to the Far East on business. By chance he knew of a Filipina already in the country. She had arrived two weeks before, brought over by a family which had in the end decided against having a stranger live with them.

Carmela paid the family back for the price of the girl's plane fare from Manila to Tel Aviv. Additionally, she guaranteed the girl \$250 net income a month, her own bedroom, meals, one day off a week, a rest period daily from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and a return ticket home should she remain for the agreed-upon two years.

"We're very pleased with our Filipina," says Carmela. "She is 22 years old, single, and apparently from a poor family. Except for a beautician's course she took before coming, she has no formal skills."

"We treat her as a member of the family. Some of my friends have warned me that if you are too nice to these girls, they take advantage of you. But I like her and I want her to stay. And anyway, I don't expect

to be served like Queen Elizabeth. Most importantly, she is very good with the children. There is something very pleasant about these girls. They are not temperamental or highly strung. They have an inner tranquility that is very appealing."

Like Carmela and Yossi, Dalia L. and her husband Meir, a successful businessman, were also reluctant to take a Filipina into their home, a villa located in one of Tel Aviv's posh northern suburbs.

"The problem is money," explained Dalia. "You become rich, so you buy a large home, you entertain a lot, you go out a lot. Either you kill yourself keeping the house clean and taking care of your kids, or you get part-time help. If you want to work, you get full-time help. The government should understand that if they are going to let us build big homes, this is the result. You need more help than what is provided by a local cleaning lady who comes for several hours each day."

Dalia decided to try a Filipina one and a half years ago when it became necessary to help her husband at the office each day. A Filipina working for Dalia's friend offered the name of a cousin. Knowing that she was taking a chance, importing someone who might not fit into the household, she purchased a round-trip ticket from Alitalia in Tel Aviv, which wired confirmation to the airline's branch office in Manila. She enrolled her in one of the private sick funds and took out an insurance policy to cover the girl in case of injury — only to discover later that the policy was invalid since, like other Philippine servants here, the girl was an

(Continued on page 9, col. 3)

Dealer in stolen goods sentenced to 10 years

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A man described as a professional fence by a panel of District Court judges was sentenced to 10 years in prison yesterday for receiving stolen goods.

Elihu Papiashvili, 42, was convicted of receiving a large quantity of cigarettes stolen from the Dubek plant, television sets worth \$90,000 and valuable leather. He was acquitted of participating in the Dubek robbery.

Noting that police found a large store of stolen goods in Papiashvili's home when he was arrested after the Dubek robbery, the judges stated that fences were a key link in the chain of crime. If those who planned large-scale robberies could not be assured of disposing of their haul, then these robberies would be less likely to occur.

The recommendations are: Sarah Frish, Nissim Yishaya and Yoram Galin for the Petah Tikva Magistrates Court; Miriam Divon as Herzliya magistrate; Reuven Dan as Hadera magistrate; and Haya Hafez, Esther Kovo and Ze'ev Hammer as Tel Aviv Municipal Court magistrates.

The judicial appointments committee, headed by Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, last week recommended the appointments of eight magistrates, a ministry spokesman announced.

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Graham Greene to get Jerusalem Prize

Jerusalem Post Reporter

British author Graham Greene is to be awarded the Jerusalem Prize at the International Book Fair in the capital next April, the Jerusalem Municipality announced yesterday.

The prize is given for writing which expresses the idea of the freedom of the individual in society. The most recent winners include Simone de Beauvoir, Octavio Paz and Sir Isaiah Berlin.

The prize jury was headed by Prof. Gershon Shaked, head of the Department of Theatre Arts at Tel Aviv University.

Arab watchman's body found burned in hut

NABLUS (Itim). — The body of an Arab watchman employed by the Public Works Department at a Jordan Valley development site was found burned in the guard hut yesterday morning.

Police found signs of violence on the 30-year-old Salim Issa's body and suspect foul play. The body was taken to the Institute for Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir for an autopsy.

Young burglars caught by police in Jaffa

JAFFA (Itim). — A gang of burglars, aged 13 to 14, was caught by police here this week. The four youngsters are said to have been responsible for dozens of break-ins to houses, shops, factories and schools.

The youngsters have reportedly admitted the thefts and told police that they sold their wares very cheaply to fences. The police are trying to trace the stolen goods and more arrests are expected.

Swedish trio here for concert series

Post Music Editor

The Garcia Trio of Göteborg, Sweden will present a series of concerts in Israel, starting on Thursday in Jerusalem.

The trio received a travel grant from the Swedish government, with the destination left to their choice. They decided to come to Israel to express their love for this country.

The Jerusalem concert will take place at the YMCA. Performances will follow in Nahariya, Haifa, Tel Aviv and Eilat. Further information will appear in our "Poster" page in Friday's paper.

TELEGRAMS. — Only life-and-death telegrams will be delivered to Australia, Great Britain and Netherlands on December 24, 25, 26, 31 and January 1. The postal services of these countries have asked the public to be aware of these limitations during the Christmas-New Year season.

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Bani Sadr: U.S. hedging over 'return of our money'

LONDON — President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr yesterday said that the American response to Iran's demand "for the return of our money" was hindering a solution of the hostage crisis.

Bani-Sadr discussed the American hostage situation at a news conference in Tehran. His remarks were carried by the official Pars news agency and monitored in London.

He did not elaborate on whether he meant the wealth of the late Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, claimed by Iran or about \$8b. in Iranian funds ordered frozen by President Jimmy Carter last year, or both.

But the president referred specifically to the financial demands, two of the four demands Iran wants the U.S. to accept for release of the 52 American hostages from captivity.

Iran also is demanding a waiver of all U.S. corporate and individual legal claims against the Iranian government and a U.S. pledge of non-interference in Iranian affairs.

But the Pars report which quoted Bani-Sadr made no reference to any differences between Iran and the U.S. over those terms.

Pars said Bani-Sadr was asked why a solution of the hostage crisis "had taken so long."

He replied, "In our opinion the main element in the delay is those who have the main power in their hands in the U.S."

In the Persian Gulf war, Iran claimed on Sunday that its forces have destroyed 2,607 Iraqi tanks and armoured carriers and shot down 205 jet fighters since skirmishes turned into a border war between the two countries on Sept. 22.

The statement was made on Tehran Radio as both sides reported fresh attacks and counterattacks in the 12-week war that has wrecked a considerable part of their oil industries.

Verification of the figures in the Iranian announcement was not possible. Both Iran and Iraq are believed to have been inflating figures of each other's human and material losses. (UPI, AP)

Quake-damaged hospital collapses, nine killed

NAPLES (UPI). — A 400-year-old hospital building housed in the former Bourbon royal palace here, damaged by last month's earthquake, collapsed yesterday, killing a number of elderly women patients.

Officials said at least nine women were killed — eight of them patients between 72 and 80 years of age and the other a 49-year-old hospital worker. About 50 patients and nurses escaped from the collapsing walls, and three elderly women patients were slightly injured.

Fire department rescue teams were unable to dig through the rubble for bodies immediately because of a cracked wall that appeared about to collapse. They called in an Italian army Leopard tank to help pull down the wall so work could begin.

The hospital, known locally as "the hospice of the poor," was housed in the 17th Century former Bourbon royal palace, whose walls were cracked in the November 23

earthquake that killed more than 3,000 people in the Naples region. The roar of the collapsing building triggered panic in central Naples, with thousands of residents rushing into the streets in fear that another earthquake was striking the city. Instead, they saw a dust cloud rising in the pre-dawn darkness from the spot where the hospital stood.

Though the hospital wing of the building was declared safe to use two days after last month's quake, city officials anxious to use the evacuated portions of the palace complex had ordered technicians to re-examine the entire structure. The examination was to have taken place this afternoon.

The collapse came as an American delegation sent by President Jimmy Carter met Italian leaders in Rome to coordinate the use of \$50 million in earthquake relief aid being approved by the U.S. Congress.

Lennon's killer threatened

NEW YORK (AP). — The self-confessed killer of former Beatle John Lennon refused to eat during the weekend until his food was checked for possible poisoning, a prison spokesman said on Sunday.

Mark Chapman, transferred to the more secure Rikers Island facility from Bellevue Hospital four days ago, ate only after his attorney, Jonathan Marks, and an outside chef watched the Sunday meal being prepared, said Correction Department spokesman Ed Hershey.

Chapman's fear apparently arose from a death threat written on the wall of his cell, Hershey said. However, Hershey could not confirm a report that Chapman had refused to eat for two days.

The scrawled threat apparently was addressed to Chapman and left by one of a dozen inmates who were moved out of the prison infirmary on Friday so Chapman could be isolated. It said: "Chapman (sic) you have not much time left. Don't feel pity. Now it is behind that."

Chapman is being held under a "suicide watch."

A guard has been assigned around the clock to Chapman's cell area because he reportedly had attempted suicide once in 1977 and again two weeks ago in New York.

He will be moved between the city prison facility and Bellevue Hospital as needed while undergoing 30 days of psychiatric tests.



Pope John Paul II strikes a curious pose, as though he is looking through a telescope, during a visit to a Rome parish church. (UPI telephoto)

Indian prisoners describe how police blinded them

NEW DELHI (AP). — India's Supreme Court yesterday released descriptive statements by prisoners in Bhagalpur, eastern India, in which they said they were blinded by police officials who punctured their eyes with needles and then doused the damaged retinas with sulphuric acid.

Two men accused police of demanding money from them in exchange for their freedom. Both said they were too poor to afford the price for their release.

The scandal in Bihar State was first reported by the Indian Express newspaper last month. It rocked the country and refocused attention on the behaviour of India's law enforcement officers.

Most of the victims said they were farm labourers. "The head constable asked for 2,000 rupees (about \$250), saying that if I paid him the money, I would be released" from police custody, 40-year-old Sahdev Das told two Supreme Court officials sent to Bhagalpur to investigate the reports.

"I told him that I am a poor man earning five rupees (about 63 cents) a day. I was not in a position to pay that large amount," Das, a stone quarry worker, told the investigators who reported back to the Supreme Court.

Soon afterward, Das said, several policemen pinned him to the

ground, poured sulphuric acid into his eyes and poked them with needles, completely destroying his sight.

Two victims said they were blinded by thugs in the pay of local landlords.

A total of 31 blindings have been reported in Bihar and four more in neighbouring West Bengal state. Ten victims were hospitalized at the Rajendra Prasad Ophthalmic Institute in New Delhi, but doctors said there was no hope of restoring their sight.

In at least two cases, doctors were summoned by the policemen to pour acid into the eyes of the prisoners, the inmates claimed.

Ten policemen have been charged with wounding the victims. The charges carry a maximum life imprisonment penalty. Five other officials have been suspended from their posts on charges of dereliction of duty or transferred out of Bhagalpur.

Policemen and residents of Bhagalpur and two other Bihar townships have denounced the government actions and have launched agitations demanding the reinstatement of the Bhagalpur police.

The police have said that most of the blindings were carried out by villagers angered by a rising crime

Skipper kills self after running aground

TOKYO (UPI). — The American captain of a tanker that ran aground killed himself after acknowledging responsibility for the mishap, police said yesterday.

Capt. C.L. Petersen, 60, of Santa Rosa, California, died of a gunshot wound to the head.

The 83,729-ton tanker Taurus, loaded with liquefied gas, ran aground on Friday near Moji, about 800 kilometres south of Tokyo.

Fund drives to end at beginning of new year

By HELEN ROSSI

Even on a slim day (postal services were disrupted for four hours yesterday morning) contributions came for both The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund and the "Forsake Me Not" drive. The response is really remarkable.

We have set a date for trying to wind up both drives — the beginning of the new year. So all those still planning to contribute — please get your donations to us quickly.

Donations of

YESTERDAY

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Fund came to \$12,105.50. The total so far is \$120,689.70. Contributions can be sent directly to: The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000. In Jerusalem they can also be left at the Bookstop, 6 Rehov Du Nuwas, in Tel Aviv; The Jerusalem Post, 34 Rehov Herzl and the Hadar Bookshop, 19 Rehov Herzl.

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\$34 In honour of our most loved brother and uncle, Dr. Ephraim Libovsky — Rabbi Victor and Tamara Weissberg, Ariel Weissberg, Amyra and Kenzie Henry, Alona and Jason Sussman.

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\$36 In honour of our Haifa cousins, Herta Lukshin and Ruth and Frank Moser — The Bernards, Southfield, Mich.

\$10 Zena and Martin Shocket, Edgware, Middlesex, England.

\$15 Mrs. Elizabeth Molnar, Toronto, Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Jules Leavitt, Barbara and Melanie Leavitt.

\$100 May our grandchildren, Galith, Debby and Avi one day continue the tradition of

Zimbabwe officials to attend Cuban Communist congress

SALISBURY. — A three-man Zimbabwe delegation will attend the Cuban Communist Party Congress this week, a government spokesman announced yesterday.

The delegation includes Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's secretary, Lovemore Magurisa. The other delegates are Kunbirai Kangai, labour and social affairs minister, and Godfrey Chidyaukus, deputy minister of local government and housing.

Meanwhile, the white mayor of Zimbabwe's second largest city has been given severe warnings by two black government ministers to stop making what they alleged were anti-government statements.

The latest dispute between Mike Constantinos, mayor of the southwestern city of Bulawayo, and ministers belonging to Mugabe's Zanu Party, was prompted by the mayor's appeal that a curfew in

force in black Bulawayo townships be lifted over the Christmas holiday. The curfew was imposed after fighting between rival guerrillas in Bulawayo in November, when about 60 persons were killed.

The fighting was started by guerrillas loyal to Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo. Constantinos later said they had been provoked by Zanu ministers making inflammatory speeches at a Bulawayo rally.

Finance Minister Enos Nkala said that Constantinos would be "silenced" if he continued making statements "at variance with the country's leadership."

And Eddison Zvobgo, the minister of local government and housing, was quoted by a newspaper yesterday as issuing a "last warning" to the mayor to stop making "subversive statements." (AP, UPI)

23 IRA prisoners join 50-day-old hunger strike

BELFAST (UPI). — Twenty-three Irish Republican Army prisoners yesterday joined a 50-day-old hunger strike by fellow inmates in Maze prison in a move that could dramatically increase the chances of widespread violence across Ulster this Christmas season.

The British government's Northern Ireland Office confirmed that the 23 men had refused breakfast and lunch and had vowed to fast until death unless they win recognition as political prisoners. They joined seven fellow inmates who have been fasting for 50 days and are confined to the Maze prison hospital in serious condition.

The British government yesterday

day admitted for the first time that one of the seven original strikers, Sean McKenna, was in danger of losing his eyesight because of a vitamin deficiency caused by his fast.

In addition to the 30 men refusing food at Maze Prison, three women IRA sympathizers yesterday entered the 14th day of a similar hunger strike at Armagh Prison, 75 kilometres southwest of Belfast.

Support for the hunger strikers has increased steadily in recent weeks. Youths hurling stones and petrol bombs have taken to the streets of Belfast during three of the past four nights, to back the prisoners' demands.

Playoff roster nearly set in NFL

NEW YORK (AP). — As the National Football League season nears its end, five teams entered the playoffs in the National Conference: Minnesota, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Dallas and Los Angeles.

In the American Conference, seven teams are competing for five playoff berths: Buffalo, Cleveland,

Houston, Oakland, San Diego, New England, and Pittsburgh.

This weekend's NFL scores were: Minnesota 28, Cleveland 23; Buffalo 24, New England 22; Houston 22, Green Bay 3; Pittsburgh 21, Kansas City 16; Detroit 27, Tampa Bay 14; Oakland 24, Denver 21; Philadelphia 17, St. Louis 3; Cincinnati 17, Chicago 14; Miami 24, Baltimore 14; San Diego 21, Seattle 14; Washington 16, New York Giants 13.

Big win for McEnroe in Montreal

MONTREAL (UPI). — John McEnroe, U.S., putting every shot in his fully stocked arsenal on display, mastered Vijay Amritraj of India 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 to win the \$320,000 WCT Challenge Cup on Sunday and earn the biggest paycheck of his career.

The U.S. Open champion broke Amritraj's service eight times, committed but two unforced errors, and was never pressed throughout a match that lasted 85 minutes. He collected a winner's cheque of \$150,000.

Rebel force driven from Chad capital

PARIS. — The capital of the

rebels in Chad in Central Africa, N'djamena, was driven from the city by Libyan tanks and guerrillas. The British state-run radio France reported yesterday.

The radio broadcast said from its correspondent in capital of N'djamena, "N'djamena, the capital, is now in the hands of the rebels. The troops of Goukouni-Oueddei and tanks fill the streets. Rebels are forced to flee his own Cameroon."

The broadcast said Hinde's former defence minister had attempted to take sprawling country, but was wounded.

Reports from Lome, Habre was ready to African-sponsored cease-fire. The agreement was signed until midnight Monday. Togolese convoys were reported to have gone to northern Chad. On Saturday, France was threatened the stability of Africa. There were indications France was ready to send into Chad to try to restore a sufficient number of states publicly requested.

(UPI, AP)

Milton Obote takes office

KAMPALA (UPI). — Obote took the oath of president yesterday, and countrymen to work to rebuild Uganda.

The 55-year-old Obote, his white Mercedes-Benz, steps of parliament, the country's new chief justice, Masika, attired in red robe, white wig, administered the oath.

Hundreds of cheering Ugandans waved posters of Obote's name and sang and danced as the bands of the government military played the national anthem and the song of the Uganda people's Congress.

The opposition Democratic Party, which has charged that Obote's return is a move to restore the dictatorship and alteration of the constitution, said it would not support Obote's return. It collected a winner's cheque of \$150,000.

Obote's return was a move to restore the dictatorship and alteration of the constitution, said it would not support Obote's return. It collected a winner's cheque of \$150,000.

Orthodox archbishop dies in America

SOUTH CANAAN, Pennsylvania. — The Most Rev. and Archbishop of the Russian Church of the Holy Trinity, Metropolitan Tikhon, died on Sunday in a heart attack at his residence in Tikhon's Monastery, Theological Seminary. He



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THE GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF TRIESTE AND VENICE
CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1979
(in U.S. Dollars)

31.12.1978		31.12.1977	
284,125,428	(A) CONDENSED HEAD OFFICE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	315,166,803	
1,452,928,961	Share Capital, Reserve and Surplus	1,736,363,066	
227,171,613	Life Assurance Fund	273,403,568	
582,377,792	Unexpired Risks Reserve — General Insurance	708,385,993	
239,161,709	Claims Outstanding:	291,245,928	
	Life and General Insurance		
	Sundry Accounts payable		
2,785,766,503		3,324,565,358	
31.12.1978			
816,315,658	Investments	1,018,008,868	
620,373,288	Real Estate	686,341,973	
1,349,077,557	Fixed Assets (up to 1.1.1979 at nominal value)	1,030,015	
2,785,766,503	Other Assets, Sundry Accounts Receivable and Cash	1,619,184,502	
		3,324,565,358	
(B) STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF INSURANCE REVENUE AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT			
1978		1977	
378,094,557	Life Assurance — Premiums less Reinsurance	427,039,088	
573,330,707	General Insurance — Premiums less Reinsurance	743,931,544	
11,004,506	Life Assurance — Profit (including investment income)	11,313,467	
22,546,325	General Insurance — Profit (including investment income)	27,786,143	
STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF REVENUE AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT — ISRAELI AGENCY (in Israeli Liras)			
9,225,714	Premiums earned and Registration Fees — General Insurance	19,982,119	
216,182	Profit on Insurance	3,277,443	
(657,844)	Income/(Deficit) from investment less expenses		
(441,562)	not included in Insurance Accounts (*)	(2,914,778)	
	Profit/(Loss) for the year	362,665	
	(*) After transfer of income to Insurance Account of IL6,468,068 (last year IL1,365,497)		
INVESTMENT POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1979			
7,958,000	Liabilities in Israel	13,962,000	
12,417,000	Admitted Assets in Israel	26,033,000	
4,459,000	Excess of Assets over Liabilities	12,071,000	
Note: The original Financial Statements of the Company were prepared in Italian Liras and converted into U.S. Dollars at the prevailing rate of exchange. Complete and detailed Financial Statements, together with Directors' Report and also Auditors' Report hereto are available at the Office of Principal Agents — Kaplan, Naim & Co. Ltd., 2 Hagdud Ha'ivri St., Tel Aviv.			
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"FORSAKE ME NOT"

The "Forsake Me Not" drive continues to grow and we shall be able to do a lot more than originally planned for the elderly and infirm. For this we are grateful to all our readers who have so generously given, and continue to give.

Yesterday \$15,961.36 came in. This puts the total so far at \$1704,997.70.

Contributions should be sent directly to: The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000. In Jerusalem they can also be left at the Book Stop, 6 Rehov Du Nuwas and in Tel Aviv and Haifa at the offices of The Jerusalem Post.

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\$1000 In honour of all my haven from Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk, where I've been spending best times of my life — Matti Kaparen, L.H. Ass. Finland, EIO Zena and Martin Shocket, Edgware, Middlesex, England; In memory of my father Philip Taylor — N.A. Taylor, Darton, Solihull, England.

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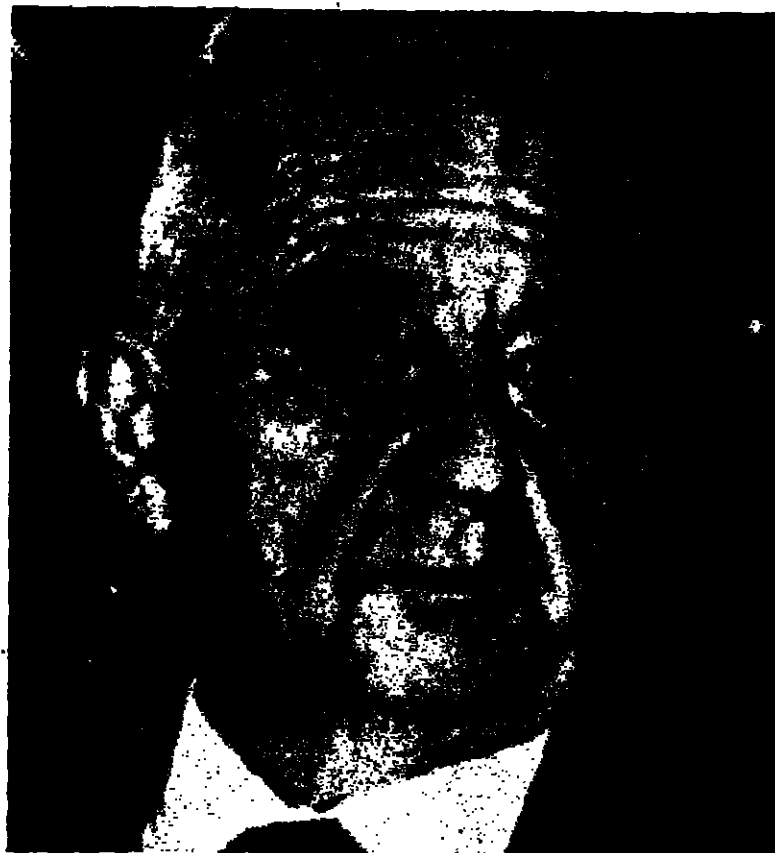
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Context

The Post's Benny Morris talks to eminent British historian Max Beloff

Chronicler of history



'At some point in time, it is likely the Soviet leaders will find it politic to support Israel's removal from the map — if they see Israel as the major barrier to their penetration of the Middle East.'

Looking at the matter from a global, not a parochial viewpoint, does he see Israel as a strategic asset for the U.S.? "It is not as much an asset to the U.S. as would be American control of the whole Arab Middle East. But it is an asset, as things now stand."

He adds that in 1948, too, Israel was an American asset and that U.S. foreign policy leaders regarded it then as a buttress against Soviet penetration of the area. "That is why they — including Truman — eventually supported Israel's emergence and continued existence. It wasn't morality; I don't believe in morality in international affairs."

He even discounts the importance of a "guilty conscience" over the Holocaust as a major reason for American support of the emergent Jewish state.

"In general, nations don't act out of such considerations, and one should never rely on a temporary moral impulse swaying policy. As in America, in 1948, so always, global calculations of power and self-interest, and domestic political pressures are what count. People will not stick to a policy out of morality."

TURNING TO present day Israel, Beloff is "very uneasy" about the country's continued reliance on one Great Power as its ally and crutch: "It's dangerous. But then Israel has no alternative; the Russians won't change their spots."

How does he rate Israel's chances of survival? "All the historical parallels are against it," he says, citing the Crusader kingdoms as the closest approximation, though he immediately notes the basic differences between the two polities. But always cautious, he adds: "The fact that the past offers no precedent for the survival of a state like Israel is no reason to believe that Israel won't manage it. But the long-term survival of the Jewish state in the midst of a hostile environment is unlikely because of the demographic and geopolitical imbalance — unless peace is reached."

SIX YEARS ago the historian Beloff turned man of action and became a major celebrity in British education circles. Giving up his Oxford professorship, he initiated the establishment of a private experimental university, the University College of Buckingham. He wanted to prove that a university could be run on a high level without any government assistance or links.

He served as its president for five years, retiring last year, and receiving a knighthood in the 1980 New Year's honours list.

The university, which now has some 400 students and 30 to 40 faculty members, is a practical teaching rather than a research institution. It was designed to allow students to do a first degree in two rather than three years.

"The saving of the year, I think, means that students ultimately end up paying about the same in fees and maintenance as at state-supported universities," he says.

The biggest department is law, and teaching is geared to practise in and between EEC countries. A strong Common Market supporter — his scathing review in *Encounter* of Paul Johnson's anti-Continental history of the British people, *The Off-Shore Islanders*, is memorable — Beloff stressed the teaching of European languages at Buckingham.

"I wanted two languages, in addition to English, to be compulsory; my faculty overruled me, and only one foreign language is now compulsory."

No longer a university lecturer or administrator, Beloff is set on completing his studies of British modern history — a domestic history covering the period 1914 to 1950, and a conclusion to his analysis of the decline and fall of the British Empire.

Nor could we commend the programme choices. Except in the Dvorak work, there was a lack of challenge and spirit, and this meant there were some tired moments throughout the concert. Still, the opening variations were rendered with proper attention to detail and with good solos.

The reading of Chopin's early work was both brilliant and expressive. But, as already mentioned, there was lack of balanced sonority in the teamwork. Yonatan Zak's keyboard part was definitely too loud, overshadowing the strings.

The Dvorak Trio did satisfy our expectations. The musicians played with vigour and rhythmic aliveness. The solo parts were good and there was better unanimity of expression. The performance was rewarded with well-earned warm applause.

ESTHER REUTER



Hall of the Lepers at Hammat Gader (El Hama)

LUXURY IN STONE

By ABRHAM RABINOVICH / Jerusalem Post Reporter

ONE OF the most striking and least known archeological sites in the country, the elaborate Roman baths of El Hama, whose remains are as high as 14 meters, has recently been opened to the public.

The ancient thermal baths at the foot of the Golan Heights are just some 200 metres from the hot springs at El Hama opened to the public three years ago.

"This was an international spa of imperial proportions," says Yizhar Hirschfeld of the Hebrew University's Institute of Archeology. "It was known as one of the largest and most beautiful baths in the world, second only to Baiae at Naples."

Before Hirschfeld and architect Giora Soler began digging three years ago, the site remained two to three meters higher protruded above the ground. To date, the excavators have exposed 4,500 square meters of the ancient baths, much of it framed by high standing walls and at

least one complete arch. Much more remains to be uncovered says Hirschfeld. Infrastructure work began on the site late in the Second Century CE and construction was carried out in the Third Century. The complex was enlarged and renovated during the Byzantine and Moslem periods and was in continual use for 600 years until destroyed by an earthquake. People seeking cures for their ailments were drawn to El Hama from all over the ancient world.

FIVE large bath halls linked by paths have been uncovered so far. One is apparently the hall reserved for lepers, mentioned by a Sixth Century historian; Antoninus, who wrote: "The lepers are led into the large bath opposite the hot pool through the gate, with lamps and incense, and the doors are closed and they remain there all night. When they fall asleep, those who are to be

cured see visions." All the lepers approach to the hall can be clearly off, and many intact pottery lamps were found.

The main hall, called the Ophel, was built on a mineral spring whose water was much too hot for bath in — 52 degrees C or 120 degrees F. The builders installed lead pipes through which cold water was let in to dilute the pools. The walls in this hall are preserved to height of 10 meters and more.

The largest hall uncovered so far, dubbed the Hall of Niches, apparently contained the coldest pools in which bathers could refresh themselves. Water flowed into the pool through carved animal heads in the marble fountains along the pool's sides.

An enormous vaulted ceiling, some 14 meters high, covered the Hall of Pilasters in which tepid water was supplied. From this hall bathers could pass to others through entrances topped by niches holding statues of the gods.

The only previous dig in the area was carried out in the 1930s by Prof. Eleazar Sukenik of Hebrew University, father of Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin. Sukenik uncovered a synagogue with richly coloured mosaics and Hebrew inscriptions. This, too, is to be opened to the public.

A GREEK inscription found in Hirschfeld is the largest ever uncovered in Israel — 71 x 185 cm. It contains a poetic text on the wonders of the springs and mentions the Empress Eudocia, who lived in Jerusalem in the Fifth Century.

Another inscription in Greek describes the renovation of the baths in the time of Mu'awiyah, founder of the Umayyad dynasty, 622. "This is the first written evidence of cooperation between the Moslem conquerors and the local Christian establishment and therefore of great historical importance," says Hirschfeld.

The bursting of the ancient springs by the Ninth Century earthquake flooded the area and buried the baths in sediment, which accounts in large part for their preservation. In addition, says Hirschfeld, the heavy weight of the basalt stones projecting above ground discouraged would-be plunderers.

When he resumes his dig in April, with the assistance of volunteers, Hirschfeld will also probe an ancient theatre apparently built as part of the same complex. Here, pagan ceremonies were carried out, he believes, to invoke supernatural powers believed to cure leprosy.

The excavation is sponsored by the Department of Antiquities, the Institute of Archeology of Hebrew University, the Israel Exploration Society and the Government Tourist Corporation. The latter tends to restore El Hama as a tourist site.



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PARIS — The torn Chad in Central Africa is a government by Libyans and a breed: a distinguished Anglo-Hispanic. The only other one of those name came up during a recent interview in Jerusalem was Sir Lewis Namier, who innovated the study of 18th-century British political history. But Namier was a statesman, which Beloff is not. Though he is a frequent visitor to Israel as a member of the board of governors of Haifa University. Born in 1913 to wealthy parents, he had immigrated to England from Eastern Europe before the October Revolution, he was given a "traditional" Jewish upbringing and the best possible education, as were the family.

One of his sisters, Nora, is a well-known political journalist; Anne, a poet, is a prominent writer in her own right, is the widow of Sir Ernest Chain, and was recently paid the gracious compliment of being appointed to the governing board of the Weizmann Institute in her late husband's place. The Libyans and another sister have carried on the family connection with Ort, which their mother helped to establish in England, by both being the chairman of the British women's branch of the organization.

Beloff, an Oxford man in the fullest sense — he ended his academic career as Gladstone professor of government and public administration and a fellow of All Souls — has spanned centuries and continents in his work, digging deep into both domestic politics and international rivalries.

Between his earliest and latest books, which deal with British history, he has published many prominent foreign policy, American government to democracy and the European balance of power.

Now his writing is devoted to his main interest: the decline and fall of the British Empire. He has so far published the first volume of *Imperial Sunset*.

"I HAVE BECOME convinced that historians must write about their own countries," he says. "When they deal with other countries, they inevitably miss things or lapse into superficiality; they lack points of contact."

Beloff concedes that about the ancient world, it may not make much difference who does the writing. "But the closer to our own times, the more difficult it becomes for historians to write about foreign countries."

Is the world better or worse off since the British Empire, and the other European empires, vanished? Beloff is deliberative in his reply: "On balance, the world was relatively better off before, especially in all that touches on the well-being of ordinary people. Intellectuals may be interested in abstracts, such as freedom, sovereignty, independence. But the vast majority of the imperial subjects were better off when the empires existed."

He recalled visiting Uganda under the British: "People walked about without fear, comparatively well-clothed, well-fed, happy. Look what followed — barbarism, butchery."

WITH POLAND seemingly on the world's tragedy agenda, the talk naturally gravitated to the Soviet Union and its empire.

A lifelong Conservative in the British political context, Beloff sounds wary of, if not outspokenly hostile towards, the Soviets. Basing himself partly on his expertise in Stalinist foreign policy, he says that Russia may "all too frequently act, and appear to act, aggressively in various parts of the world. But strategically, she was and is on the defensive."

He explains that, because of the threat posed by the social, economic and ethnic flaws and strains in the Soviet system, the Kremlin "is far more concerned to insulate itself and its satellites than to expand in Europe."

Orthodox and dies in America

South Canadian sovereignty independence. But the vast majority of the imperial subjects were better off when the empires existed."

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The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation Ltd. announces a competition for the design of The Holocaust Survivors' Convention Medal

The medal will be issued to commemorate the Holocaust Survivors' Convention, which will take place in Israel in the summer of 1981, the theme of the convention being "Holocaust to Resurgence." All relevant details are given in the Competition Conditions, available from the Corporation's offices in Jerusalem, 5 Ahad Ha'am Street, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-668105, and 3 Mendele Street, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-227428. Members of the Association of Graphic Artists, and of the Association of Sculptors and Painters can obtain the Competition Conditions through their associations.

Prizes will be as follows:
First prize: IS7,000
Second prize: IS2,500
Third prize: IS1,250

The last date for submitting entries is Thursday, January 15, 1981 (12 noon) at the Corporation's Jerusalem office.

Lack of spirit

MUSIC

HAIFA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY. The Yuvai Trio: Uri Flanka, violin; Simcha Harel, cello; Yonatan Zak, piano. (Rehov, Haifa, December 6). Beethoven: Variations on "Ich bin der Schmelzer Kahane", Op. 121 in G Major; Chopin: Trio in G Minor, Op. 8; Dvorak: Trio in F Minor, Op. 65.

BEING accustomed to expect from the members of the Yuvai Trio much more than correct and conscientiously worked out performances, we were somewhat disappointed. Missing, especially in the first part of the concert, was tonal balance and the usual group harmony in interpretative approach.

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THE STRONGEST ready-to-wear collection in Israel this winter is, to my mind, Judith Gottfried's, for Gottex.

Ready-to-wear and Gottex? One normally assumes that they are an internationally famous swimwear house. But gradually, Judith, the younger daughter of Gottex's founder Leah Gottlieb, has come into her own meter and is now shining as brightly as her mother.

The new collection is strong on the "military" with about 10 different types of army jumpsuits, the aviator suit and the boiler suit. There are army fatigue trousers, a cord riding breeches from the First World War, parkas, duvet jackets. All army styles come in shades of khaki, olive drab, smoke grey, cinnamon brown, plus white and the shiny brights. This army look of Judith Gottfried's is trendy, chic and the easiest style for the modern woman. It's a quiet uniformity punctuated with a special personal style.

For Judith Gottfried is one of the new designers — a stylist like the Americans Calvin Klein, Halston, Lauren, who are incredibly good at picking up a mood or a look and promoting it.

A fashion designer like Zandra Rhodes or Yves St. Laurent is a prophet who is not always listened to. Both fashion designers and stylists are valid, but the stylists are taking over more and more.

Judith Gottfried agrees with this, as she told me recently, at Gottex headquarters in Tel Aviv.

"I think for today's life, the stylist is more important. I certainly would call myself a stylist rather than a fashion designer. Style is a whole conception of what a woman needs to wear. My clothes depend on subtlety. I define design as a way of combining fashion with the way we live. Fashion-style is an expression of today, it contains the elements of technology, it needs to be smart yet comfortable, to fit into an active woman's world. It's rather like the new electric car, which is designed to match the mood of the '80s."

Judith believes that nowadays there is not the creativity of fashion as there was at the beginning of the century, when each gown was handmade for the woman wearing it.

"Most designers are copying one another. Even the French masters like St. Laurent or Givenchy look at what's going on in the street, searching for ideas," Judith states. "Haute couture today is nostalgia for a lost past. The designers in Europe exist for a few remaining women of the nobility, many of whom wear their clothes for free."

Haute couture, Judith thinks, is just for these very aristocratic women to wear to evening gala occasions. That's why all the French designers have diversified into ready-to-wear and to licensing their names to cosmetics, perfumes and sunglasses, where the money is to be made.

"Although the media and the international store buyers still go to Paris, to see the collections, it's rather for old times' sake, like not wanting to break ties with one's ex-husband, because fashion's impact has definitely switched to New York," Judith believes.

The twentieth century began in the reflected of the burst of inventions that shed a bright on the closing years of the Victorian age. Of course, not all the inventions had a direct influence on fashion, but the one that changed fashion most was the sewing machine, which made the most ant clothes available to all women.

You know, at the turn of the century," says Judith reflectively, "only the rich women could afford to have clothes made specially for them. When they travelled it was by ship, with three or four enormous trunks and a personal maid to look after the clothes. It was a much slower pace, of life, luxury, was only for the few. Today, every woman can look good as only the privileged classes once could."

"Cecil Beaton wrote about a legendary American beauty of the early 1900s. Her wardrobe included black velvet dresses for day; low-cut bare backed evening dresses; jackets and coats made of rich and rare materials and worn with velvet skirts by day or satin for evening, nightdresses all of lace as delicate as gossamer, blouses of embroidered batiste, etc. Could you imagine that today?"

"Now, when a woman travels, it's by plane, and a perfect wardrobe, say two pairs of trousers, jeans, two skirts, three jackets, shirts, sweaters and one dinner dress, can all get into a big carry-on travel bag."

Yes, women and fashion have changed dramatically over the last 80 years, Judith feels strongly on this:

"Today, women need to dress for an active life, and a woman is someone, often successful, very often in a position of power. She's busy, and she needs the kind of clothes that work many different ways. A stylist has to sense the mood and to make women look better."

That is why Judith Gottfried's clothes are very modern, comfortable, sexy, but not in a blatant way. Her clothes feel good not just because of their relaxed cut but also because of their fabrics. She

The new star in the Gottex firmament is Judith Gottfried, daughter of Leah Gottlieb. Sandra Skarbek talked to her. Pictures by Nira David.

A certain style



Just a snap (above, left) — Judith's Mao-green down-filled jacket whose sleeves snap off to leave a vest, worn with army fatigue trousers. Khaki battle trousers (above, right) are teamed with sheepskin vest and flannel check army-style shirt. From army to evening — (below left), black crepe teamed with lures or sequined tops. Ultimate evening luxury, (below, right), a black layered chiffon cocktail dress. (Right) Actress Liv Ullmann, on her recent visit here, fell in love with this mustard shiny nylon jumpsuit, embellished with lots of zips. It's "comfortable and good-looking," Liv said enthusiastically.



insists on using natural fibres, in spite of the cost. "Women today can balance femininity with femininity," Judith believes. "They can be strong but wear clothes that are really feminine. My clothes depend on their wearability. I think simplicity and ease in dressing has now come of age and really dominates the world fashion scene. Mix-and-match gives a new life to separates and this is important for the severe economic times we are living through."

Curiously, though, Judith prefers the French designers to the American stylists.

"I don't admire any one designer constantly. I like St. Laurent's style, his pret-à-porter clothes can be mixed. For instance, you can wear a shirt from this year's collection with a skirt and jacket of four years ago and the outfit will look totally new, very good."

"I also like at the moment Thierry Mugler, Kansai Yamamoto, Claude Montana and Issey Miyake. They are the young, extreme movement in fashion."

The strongest influence on the young Judith's fashion life was her mother, although she didn't consciously think about fashion as a career when she was a child.

The Gottlieb family, father, mother, daughters Miriam and Judith, came to Israel from Hungary in 1949.

"It was on the first legal ship that arrived here,

after the declaration of the State. We lived in Jaffa for a year and then moved to Tel Aviv," Judith tells.

Her parents started with a small raincoat company and also children's wear but "because the winter was so short and a risky business, they started to look for something more commercial. My mother hit on the idea of bathing suits," Judith smiles. "I'm sure at the time, she never dreamt it would become the success it has."

While in high school, Judith started going to the factory (it was a much smaller concern then. They started to export in 1967-68, and hit the big time then.)

"I knew what my mother was doing, because she was involved in the business 24 hours a day. I find now, that it's the same way for me. I live and breathe fashion. Even driving in the car on my way home, I can't switch off an idea. I don't know if this is a good thing or not. However, in this business, one can't come home, shut the door and forget fashion. It's always on one's mind. But I do relax. I play tennis, the piano, swim, and I like to do jazz dancing."

In the evenings, Judith and her husband don't go out a lot so they can be with their three children — two daughters 11½ and 8 and a son, 7.

"My children are very interested in fashion. My oldest girl likes to come to the factory and see what's going on. Possibly they'll be a third generation."

My son likes sport, but he knows what he wants to wear."

After assisting her mother at Gottex, Judith branched out into her own ready-to-wear business in 1971, called "Judith Creations."

"I wanted to express my own identity and spread my wings, but when the 1973 war broke out, I decided to rejoin Gottex."

Judith was always talented as a fashion stylist. I remember covering her Judith Creations collections and she was doing a forerunner of the wrap dress, before it was a twinkle in Calvin Klein's eye. She also did some great smocks in white, with lace and big bawling sleeves in cotton crepe. (I still own one and it is still a wearable fashion.)

Once back at Gottex, Judith worked with her mother closely on the annual bathing and beachwear collection. Gradually, she started to introduce a small ready-to-wear collection, which included sportswear. Later came dazzling evening dresses, which drew a mixed response from the critics, but women such as Ofra Navon and Leah Rabin loved the clothes and wore them.

Frankly glamorous and sexy, Judith's evening collections add a welcome spice to the Israel fashion scene and are included in the new ready-to-wear collection, which at the moment is only available on the local market.

However, Gottex plan on enlarging their plant, so they can give equal coverage to both the

swimwear and the ready-to-wear collections.

"It's in the programme to make the ready-to-wear collection for export very soon," Judith says. "We have had foreign buyers here to see our annual order for swimwear and they've been taking the ready-to-wear and snapped up the collection."

The new r-t-w collection, while it does give me a free emphasis on the military which I liked, also has a sampling of bread and butter classics, like others flowered dresses in particular, which I find fashionable. Does Judith mind critics' as to this?

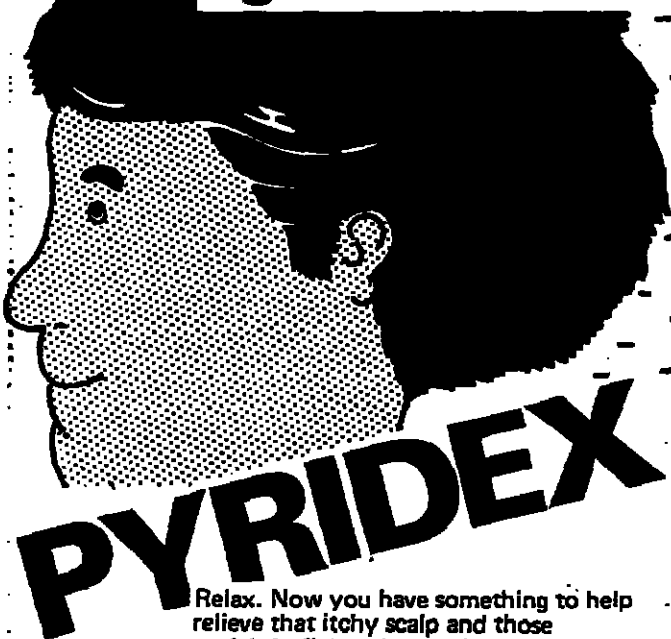
"No, not at all. With only good things said about my work, one can't improve. One needs to be a bit of what other people in the profession think who can't. However, if I just did the part of the collection that I liked, it wouldn't be at all commercial."

"The bread and butter numbers sell well all over the country to women who perhaps are not as fans in a fashion oriented as yourself. They want to be after using the good, presentable, but are not so adventurous. It's a token hat to think of this woman, as well as the trend."

Small, blonde, and quite shy, Judith blossomed with the success of this collection.

She feels that the most important part of doing clothes is to create clothes that women look beautiful in a style that fits their lifestyle. "Clothes should always be relaxed, and comfortable. The true luxury is simplicity and that the wearer feel good."

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Mif: gambling to win

THE RISK factor in the winter fashion stakes is enormous, and any fashion house which dares to base its collection on only two or three different silhouettes is in danger of losing its way out of business.

In the (almost) everything goes of the 80s, Mif is gambling to win. The winter collection shown at the Diplomat Hotel, Jerusalem, in mid-November (the organization for children with developmental and learning difficulties), was a fashion conglomerate of the best of the last five decades.

Groupings were in shiny poplin, flannel, terry-cloth, acrylic, corduroy, wool and crepe.

The revival scene romped through fashion extremes such as the super-mini and the shulmppy arm-boy look to the sporty, the tailored and the classically elegant.

Passing each other on the catwalk were the unstructured blazer and the tailored jacket. Pants ranged from virtually shapeless to skin-tight. Culottes were either camouflaged or obvious. Skirts went from wide cloche to slinky splits. Skirt lengths rode up from mid-calf to below the buttocks. Dresses were flared, straight, pleated or chemise. Jumpsuits generally followed the natural curves of the body, but loose. They came in plain fabrics, quilting and huge checks. Crepe cocktailwear was either simple or adorned with sequins. Jogging outfits had a choice of tops — tight fitting T-shirts, loose fitting sweat shirts and exaggerated blouses.

The variety in colour and style, with a "something for everyone" pitch made this one of the most interesting and exciting collections of the season. Even the darker shades were imbued with a lush, rich toning. Green for instance, was not olive, but moss. Wine conveyed the full ripeness of the grape. Yellows came in brilliant buttercup and old gold. Browns had the lustre of polished oak.

This season, Mif has really pulled out all the stops. In my book, they get A for effort.

Winter fashion collections, reviewed by Greer Fay Cashman.



Winter wonderland — (from left) poplin, flannel and wool combined in a Mif mix-and-match outfit. Angora wool suits by Lena-Deco. Zip-fronted boilersuit by Alf. Ata's warm-as-toast separates look, including bouclé-style vest and check skirt.



Ouman: classical knits

THE RECENT Polgat acquisition of Lena-Deco which has merged with Polgat's knitwear subsidiary company Ouman, now places Ouman in the position of Israel's

largest producer of knitted clothing for women, men and children.

Under the terms of the merger, most of the Lena-Deco staff have been retained, bringing the total Ouman work force to 1,000.

The company's four plants in Kiryat Gat, Ofakim, Or Yehuda and B'nei Brak this year produced 1.8 million units of clothing, of which 75-80 per cent were exported.

A large share of Ouman's \$17m. exports was bought up by Marks and Spencer. Export forecasts for 1981 are conservatively estimated at \$20m., but Ouman's director Yossi Pollack envisages that the final

figure will be higher.

In addition to its four production zones, Ouman operates a research and design centre in Tel Aviv. The two main designers are Emanuel Banfi, whose creations Ouman commissioned from Italy; and Lydia Markovitch, previously the resident designer for Lena-Deco.

There are 500 retail outlets for the 20 per cent of production which is distributed locally.

At a press showing of Ouman's new winter lines for men and women, the emphasis was on the sporty and classical. Prices quoted were fairly reasonable: Polo shirts

sold from IS118 for women and IS170 for men. Bouclé sweaters averaged IS160 and mohair jacquards IS200.

The best buy in the Ouman collection was the men's Scandinavian-style ski sweater, selling at IS177. Somewhat more expensive, but less costly than they look, were a range of cognac coloured zippered and button-through men's jackets in a combination of superfine corduroy and knitted rib. Prices were IS261 to IS311.

The tennis look was given prominence in styles for men and women in crew-neck and V-neck

sweaters, cardigans and sleeve pullovers, mainly in white with red and/or black and blue. Another sporty look was achieved in zippered cardigans with bands of colour in variegated stripes.

In the more classic lines, the sweaters were soft and sensuous, accentuated by lambswool, Shetland, and blends, wool/mohair blends, wool/acrylic and bouclés.

Two- and three-piece ensembles in monotonous, total or partial quads and stripes are a must for winter wardrobe — very business like in deep tonings, flattering feminine in pastels.

ADVERTISING, as is widely known, is the single most important factor in conventional beauty products, and the bigger and more successful the cosmetics company, the bigger the advertising budget.

What, then, are we to make of a blossoming beauty-products firm that does practically no advertising, and yet has a growing band of true-believer fans who learn about the products almost entirely from other convinced customers, and who soon become true-believers themselves, eager to pass the word? Actress Dalia Friedland and Shoshik Shani are two enthusiasts in this group. Both had bad skin for years — Dalia because of wrong treatment, Shoshik because of neglect, in both cases compounded by the wear and tear of theatre life. Both actresses now have glowing complexions, to the extent that Shoshik, to her amusement, is often asked whether she has had a face-lift. Both are so grateful to the firm's products and the easy methods of home use that they have become walking, talking advertisements for the line — free of charge, just as a way of saying thank-you and helping others.

There is even the fashionably obligatory Egyptian angle to this story: a Pharaonic painting hangs in the firm's office, the gift of an Egyptian woman journalist who came to Israel during one of the peace talks. She was brought to visit this unusual company for a look at another side of Israel by one of its fans in a government office. After using the products, she sent the gift as a token of appreciation.

A timely inflation-recession note: when times are hard in America (our model for living), women cut down on buying new clothes; but because it provides a relatively thrifty morale-booster, the cosmetics industry thrives during dark days.

The product line is called "RVA," together with the phrase "Hydro-cosmetics." Locally, it is also called "Par-par," for the butterfly on the packaging. The heart of the operation is an establishment called "Ker" (this is all a bit complicated, but I think well worth while following) at Kikar HaMedina in Tel Aviv, where women come to learn simple beauty treatments to follow at home, and where cosmeticians are trained in the use of RVA products. Printed on the packaging is the welcome phrase "Product of Israel," with three cities listed — Tel Aviv, Stockholm, New York.

The name "Ker" is made up of the initials of the mother and daughter who are responsible for all this. The mother is known as "Rozzi K." (I realize this is getting into the area of Kabbalah intrigue). Her daughter, Evi, was off on a business trip to America when I visited the Ker Institute.

Rozzi, who prefers not to use her last name because another local cosmetics laboratory has the same, is an imposing woman of 61 whose skin is free of lines, blemishes or wrinkles. Quite dramatically, she wears no makeup whatsoever (RVA makes no makeup, only skin-care products), although her fingernails are vivid scarlet. I did not ask why she chooses this effectively theatrical combination, but one may assume that the nail colour prevents her from appearing to be a thorough-going nature nut.

The key word in the RVA line — which includes creams and lotions for moisturizing, cleansing, nourishing, and several special tasks — is "hydration." Not a terribly attractive word, it is suitably modern-sounding, but most importantly, it points up the basic RVA theory: skin must be moist, and water is good for it. This is exactly the opposite of the school of thought which warned women against using water on their skin. RVA creams

and oils are patted or gently massaged on to a moist skin, and I must say the feeling is very good. The skin, in fact, gets hooked on this treatment and actually seems to call out for it during the day, especially in very dry weather: as additions go, this one seems an extremely healthy one. All oils used are natural ones from natural products — avocado, coconut — and thus mix readily with water.

All the products are made almost entirely of natural ingredients, a fact which is, I think, insufficiently stressed in the packaging, considering the popularity which "natural" ingredients now enjoy, and considering how very well they work. "A woman can be beautiful on a desert island," Rozzi claims, because of all the treatment products nature in her bounty provides; she hastens to add that by beauty she means "cared for, well groomed."

I nod dubiously. This may work if one has a sufficiently Hungarian background, for Hungarian women do seem to have the most magical touch in this field. Or else, if a woman has been born with good skin. There is no getting around that this is one of those things one either is or isn't. Or if she is sufficiently plump, for it is easier to have a smooth complexion if one has a bad figure, which is only fair.

Rozzi K. was born in Arad — Arad in Transylvania, not the Negev — and was fascinated by cosmetics as a little girl. "But not by the pretty bottles. What interested me, even as a child, were nature's products, and I was constantly investigating plants and blossoms and rubbing myself with them." She studied cosmetics in Hungary — she has been in the field for 44 years now — but became dissatisfied with the traditional approach and "went natural" long before this became the fashion. She uses lots of parsley, grain, the bones of tiny marine animals, sand from Caesarea, water from the Tiberias Hot Springs, in addition to much else; and her carefully designed line is a far cry from cucumber slices on the face. The products are remarkably light, non-greasy, and pleasant to use. This is not just my opinion, but that of a great many friends to whom I have enthusiastically recommended RVA.

The Swedish connection began in 1968, when Rozzi met the representative of the Swedish firm "RVA" at a cosmetics conference in Amsterdam and found that their approaches had much in common. They began working together, Rozzi importing the Swedish products to Israel. Later, she patriotically decided they could be manufactured here, in the face of all the headaches involved. Now her Israeli company does a modest export business to Canada, Australia, the motherland Sweden, and, triumphantly, to France. The New York branch is only starting, and of course distribution throughout America is an enormous problem.

"All that's needed," sighs Rozzi, "is a million-dollar marketing budget." I should add that I brought a few tubes of moisturizing cream to friends in America, where they were enthusiastically received. In Rozzi's files are the names of tourists who come regularly to Israel and as regularly pay a visit to "Ker" for a checkup, a new set of instructions (depending on skin changes — and the season), and a year's supply of products.

At the Ker Institute, I met a whole range of devoted fans; among them a young and beautiful El Al stewardess who looks as though she is years away from worrying about her skin, but suffers from the dry air in planes produced by air-

Skin care for cynics

Helga Dudman joins a 'growing crowd of true-believer fans' of RVA beauty products.

conditioning. She is only one of the El Al staff who swears by RVA — and they include male stewards as well. (Problem skin and acne conditions are said to be treated with great success — with close attention to medical and diet problems. For the skin, after all, is merely the most external indicator of general health.) Also in Rozzi's file is a letter from a nurse at a local hospital who works in — of all places — the dermatology department. Rozzi solved her particular skin problems "after several sleepless nights."

Another fan, bursting with eagerness to tell me about her skin progress, was a middle-aged woman with an almost indecently fine and clear complexion who has been using Rozzi's advice and products for nearly three years. "I used to buy only the most expensive imported skin-care products," she told me. "But I always had blackheads, and had to go regularly to a cosmetician to have them removed. How did I hear about RVA and Ker? Through Shoshik Shani. I don't know her all that well, but we



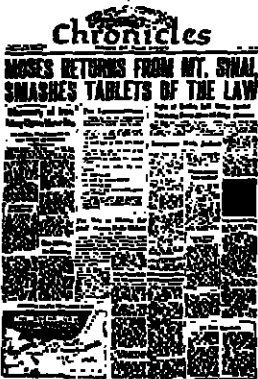
Rozzi K.

go to the same café, and for a long time I saw that she had a bad complexion. Then suddenly I noticed a tremendous improvement. I simply asked her what had happened, and she told me."

A new wrinkle (one of the few in sight) at the Ker Institute is a computer, into which is fed the client's skin type and problems, and which then instantly prints out the products recommended, in Hebrew or English. It was programmed by

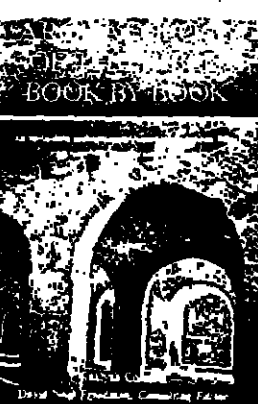
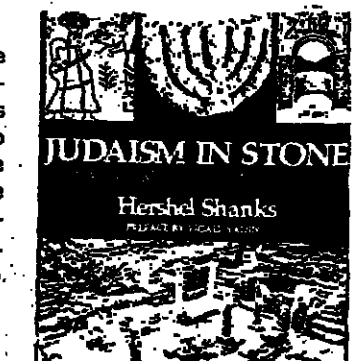
WINTER READING FROM THE JERUSALEM POST

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Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing Director

THE JERUSALEM POST

Erwin Frenkel
Editor

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The public be damned

RADIO AND TELEPHONE services were disrupted twice in a row yesterday.

The first time the disruption was by Communications Ministry engineers protesting what they view as a failure to protect their tenure and seniority rights under the proposed telecommunications company that is slated to take over the services.

The second disruption was caused by Communications Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, who was out to prove that the workers had no monopoly on the disregard of the rights of telephone subscribers and radio set owners.

Mr. Moda'i proved his point, most persuasively. He had a justified grievance against the engineers, and he could have taken measures to penalize them for their willful work stoppage — for example, by docking their pay. Yet in a spasm of mindless retaliation he chose to punish the public instead.

Similarly last month, having been informed that a number of mailbags with Jerusalem addresses were misdirected in the capital's postal sorting office to Haifa, Mr. Moda'i promptly ordered the office closed. He revoked the order within a few hours.

Plainly Mr. Moda'i is a man in a very great hurry, on at least some public issues. Thus, having been over to the idea of a telecommunications company, he would brook no delay in its endorsement by the cabinet. This he secured in part by deliberately withholding from his colleagues the strong reservations expressed, in writing, by the Civil Service Commissioner.

This was last year. This year, in consequence, the minister has found himself holding a largely empty bag: the company is soon to be enacted into law, but on roughly such terms as were indicated by the Commissioner, and reflecting the Treasury's frugal viewpoint. No wonder the engineers are unhappy: they had reason to expect that they would partake in the profits of a new commercial organization, while retaining the cushy benefits of government employment.

Inevitably, disappointment has set in. This is shared by Mr. Moda'i himself, but he has taken the easy way: he is now seeking to give up communications, yet keep his other portfolio, that of energy and infrastructure.

If this is granted by the cabinet, Mr. Moda'i's last days in communications will not be seen to have been idly spent. Just lately the minister has published without any legal warrant (and to the chagrin of Ze'evulun Hammer, who as minister of education and culture does have the authority) tenders for cable television.

This in turn follows by about five months Mr. Moda'i's breathlessly confident announcement that, within a month or two, he would be issuing an ordinance to establish a second, commercial, television station. Thus if Mr. Moda'i were to have his way Israel could suddenly be covered with local cable TV networks, unregulated by any legal framework or guidelines.

This fits in well with the minister's penchant for distributing prizes to friendly economic and political interests. The Electric Corporation is only the most blatant case of the packing of public agencies with Mr. Moda'i's cronies from his own faction in the Liberal Party.

On some matters the minister, it is true, has not been in any great rush at all. Three months ago he appointed a committee to check up on the siting of a nuclear power station. He only lost three years doing so. The Hadera power station is a monument to Mr. Moda'i's capacity for painfully slow deliberation.

Still, one should not complain. Things could have been far worse: but for the insistence, on this one point, of the Democrats, Mr. Moda'i, "90 per cent qualified," might have been made foreign minister.

Beating all records

AN INFLATION rate that hovers around two digits per month is, unfortunately, no longer news. November's price rise of 9.4 per cent — equivalent to an annual rate of 194 per cent — was expected.

The bulk of last month's price rises was government-induced. They contrast sharply with the thrust of Finance Minister Yigael Hurvitz's newest economic policy, as outlined in Sunday's budget discussion in the cabinet. The policy is ostensibly aimed at reducing inflation on the cost side, but only a month ago the word was that alleged excess purchasing power must be mopped up by sharply raising government-determined prices.

The first reactions by the Treasury to November's rise in the price index also apparently reverted to the pre-budget axiom, so often voiced by Mr. Hurvitz, that "the public has too much money." The approach that underlies the finance minister's budget proposals indicates that the Treasury has apparently learned something — but it does not seem to have forgotten anything.

Facts are notoriously powerless to confound firmly ingrained convictions. Nevertheless, it is worth pointing out that, whatever the causes of inflation may be, an excess of real demand is not among them, according to the evidence.

Real wages have been eroded sharply throughout 1980. Wholesale sales in the domestic market in the first nine months of the year were 7 per cent below those of the same period in 1979. The index of industrial production in the first eight months of the year was, on the average, 6 per cent below that of 1979 and was slightly below that of 1978 — despite a significant growth in industrial exports. Private consumption in the first half of the year was 2.7 per cent lower than in the same period of 1979 and 5.2 per cent lower than in the last half of 1979. Investment was down by 8.3 per cent compared with the first half of 1979, and by a little more in comparison with the second half of last year.

If the public did not spend its "excess" money on consumption and on investment, where did the money go? Apparently it went into financial assets — into the money that the government borrows, on linked terms, to finance its excess current expenditure.

The excess public expenditure is of such dimensions that no further government-imposed frugality on private consumption — mainly, by depressing real wages — will suffice to offset it, without throwing the economy into mass unemployment and deep recession. There have, indeed, been calls for just such a Spartan "emergency regime," with overtones that may threaten our democratic regime.

When Mr. Hurvitz presented his budget on Sunday, he warned that we might soon have an inflation rate of 200 per cent. His warning was tepid, because we have already reached that rate, which is nearly twice as high as that reached between November 1978 and November 1979. And the latter, in turn, was twice as high as the inflation rate a year before.

Prof. Ezra Sadan, the head of the Treasury's Planning Authority, was more realistic. He predicted that without a radically new economic policy we could end up, in the next twelve months, with an inflation of 300-400 per cent.

Clearly, there must be sharp cuts in government spending — primarily in defence and in subsidies to capital. However, such measures alone are not likely to reduce inflation, and they may merely send the economy into hyper-stagflation. The main instrument for restraining prices must be sharp reductions in import duties and a slowdown of devaluation. This would bring an effective competitive pressure to bear on the domestic price level.

This will produce a temporary deterioration in our payments balance. But it is unavoidable — if we wish to beat down inflation and, later, to again improve the payments balance. The sooner this is realized, by the opposition as well as by the coalition, the better.

AN INJECTION OF BITTERNESS

The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court has halted construction of a proposed South African-financed medical centre in Herzliya. David Krivine and Joseph Morgenstern examine the background to the case and its possible consequences.

A HALF-BUILT medical centre, located on a road along the seashore between the Sharon and Accadia hotels in Herzliya, must be dismantled by the middle of next month. This order, issued by the magistrate's court in Tel Aviv on November 20, throws to the winds an investment of \$1.3m., plus further financial commitments, from a group of South African investors.

The anger of the promoters knows no bounds. The building was to contain 50 to 60 surgeries for doctors and dentists, as well as shops connected with medical needs (a pharmacy, an optometrist, perhaps a showroom for medical equipment), also a cafe and possibly a bookshop and flower shop.

Situated in the heart of tourist land, the centre would accommodate, among others, immigrant medicals, well-equipped to provide dollar-earning services for English-speaking visitors. However, the three-storey building, complete with an underground parking lot for 73 cars, abuts on the back of villas, closing their view, threatening to disturb them and obtruding on their privacy.

Owners of the private homes, who suddenly found themselves face to face with a commercial premises, promptly called for a court order to halt construction. Three adjoining residences are involved, homes of businessman Yisrael Harari, of Suzie and Abba Eban, and of the Italian military attaché, who is a tenant in a house that belongs to the Amos family (Mrs. Eban and her relatives).

SHOCKWAVES from the threatened closure have hit South Africa. While on a trip there to consult about further action, the investors' spokesman, Aubrey Joffe, told the Johannesburg *Sunday Times*: "I think anyone from South Africa would be crazy to invest in Israeli projects in the future if this sort of thing can happen."

Yisrael Harari, in his late sixties and honorary consul for Finland, defends his stand: "I'm not young any more, I've worked hard to build this home — and look what suddenly stares me in the face."

First intimations that something was afoot came when Harari saw technicians taking soil samples at the site. Then he found that the four one-dunam plots behind his home had been consolidated into a single

unit for the construction of the medical centre.

Building started on October 18, 1979. Four days later, his complaint was despatched to the district town planning commission. On November 9, the Interior Ministry rejected it. And on November 28, the court received the plaintiffs' request for an injunction to halt construction.

The defendants went on building during the hearings. They even assured the court that they were doing it at their own risk. Harari maintains they were trying to create a *fait accompli*. Each side suspects the other of unseemly motives.

In the medical groups' defence, it can be said that they had received all the permits necessary, which took time. Time is money, and as far as they knew they were legally entitled to build. Indeed, the city engineer testified that they had faithfully complied with the stipulations of the permit.

They had gone through all the procedures with scrupulous care. Two and a half years ago, in the summer of 1978, the Investment Authority granted "approved status" to the project. In August of that year, the South African Reserve Bank gave its approval for the application of foreign currency to the Israeli investment.

CONCURRENTLY, the municipality of Herzliya gave approval in principle to the re-zoning from residential to mixed. The maximum height of the building was to be nine metres above ground. In November, the district town planning commission referred the drawings to a technical sub-committee, which included the chief town planner of Israel and the chief district architect, Messrs. Dash and Radosh.

After three meetings and an on-site inspection, the sub-committee approved the plans on condition that the height be reduced to seven metres, so as not to inconvenience the neighbours. In the summer of 1979, over the legally required period of 60 days during which time objections could be raised, none were received.

In September 1979, the district town planning commission again approved the blueprints, which included the sub-committee's recommended changes. The Herzliya municipality followed suit, and in October a complete building permit

was issued. Then IS400,000 was paid by the investors to cover various costs including licences, drainage, betterment tax, fees and water connections.

Says the South African architect, Harry Whiteson: "The court found that the building permit issued to us had used a wrong method of calculating building quotes. We put in for a new permit, which reduced our building space. We didn't argue and modified our diagrams accordingly. We were meticulous in abiding by the law."

THE COURT found that they were in error all the same. The cellar was too high. (Whiteson explains that soil tests underground revealed a band of mud — "We had to dig deeper for a secure foundation.") Ancillary structures were supplementary to the allotted building quota instead of being part of it. (The reference is to a section of the parking area, water tanks and condensers for the air-conditioning on the roof, lift-shaft machinery on the roof, a refuse room and such like.)

The defence made the point that in the original permit these premises were extra. The court found that in the amended permit they were not. Therefore, the edifice turned out to be 407 square metres too large. "It comes to only between 6 and 7 per cent of the total building area," Judge Yehoshua Gross pronounced, "but even that cannot be ignored. The divergence plays an important part in the case."

On the face of it, this should not be of great concern to the plaintiffs, whose objection is to the whole project, whether it be precisely 6,270 square metres or 6,677 square metres. The difference to them is marginal. But their lawyer, Ephraim Ohnansky, used (as lawyers do) every weapon available to him. And this breach of the building instructions was a factor in the court's decision to squelch the project.

THE MAIN REASON was different. The court took issue not with Orbit Medi-Centre Ltd., the defendant, but with the local authority which issued the building permit. Said the judge: "I have reached the conclusion that this plan's approval was influenced by extraneous and invalid considerations which are not relevant to the matter."

The motives of Herzliya City Hall were laudable, but mistaken. It

Dry Bones



wanted to encourage tourism, investment, the immigration of doctors, all of which may well justify the creation of a medical centre. What concerns the town planning commission, however, is where the centre should be located, and in making that decision they should have been influenced by the interests of the people already living in the vicinity.

These people paid good money to live in Herzliya-Pituah because the neighbourhood had certain amenities, embodied in a masterplan, which provided for a residential suburb of villas, each on its own plot. To change this masterplan subsequently is tantamount to deceiving the householders.

The plaintiffs answer with some justice that the area is no longer completely residential anyway. Many hotels have sprung up, with attendant restaurants and cafes. The medical centre is an amenity for the tourist population. Its backers have an interest that it be sited opposite the best hotels.

But the residents have an interest, too, namely that the four empty plots designed for villas be not rezoned for commercial purposes, however worthy. The local authority should have taken the trouble to ensure that the centre was placed at a reasonable distance from where people live.

THIS CONCLUSION, it must be stressed, is drawn by the court of justice itself. To test its validity, the defendants might well be disposed to lodge an appeal. If the appeal court comes to the same conclusion, then it will emerge that the town-

planning authorities in Herzliya do not know their business.

There cannot be two sets of principles in Israel — one guiding the local authority and the other guiding the court of law. Whiteson observes wryly: "It's like driving at 90 kilometres-an-hour along a highway marked as having a speed limit of 90, only to be stopped by a policeman and given a ticket for exceeding 60."

Herzliya issued permits which caused a number of South Africans in good faith to put a lot of money into a venture that is good for them and good for Israel. They have just written to the municipality claiming damages of IS3.5m.

The South African Government does not take so serious a view of this incident. An embassy spokesman in Tel Aviv called the situation "an isolated case. An impression should not be created whereby this specific investment raises the question of further investment in Israel from South Africa," he stated.

He confirmed that due to the current relatively high inflationary rate in South Africa, the government had lifted restrictions on overseas investments. "The Reserve Bank now gives approval for foreign investment on the basis of merit. There are no ceilings on the amounts, as was the case a few years ago."

Potential private investors are not re-assured. The Dolphinarium project in Jaffa is another South African venture. Several of the participants have expressed doubts in the last few days about going ahead with it.

READERS' LETTERS

BLACKS IN U.S. ARMY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I cannot refrain from expressing my outrage over the damaging and uncalled-for remarks of Mr. Dayan regarding black U.S. Army personnel. For over four years, I served as an officer in the U.S. Army with all black troops and can assure you that the black soldier can and does serve with competency, bravery and even distinction. To cite an example: the famous World War II "Red Bull Express" was manned mainly by black personnel. But the main import of this incident is that Mr. Dayan's fatuous

comments come at a time when (I am sure he well knows) the U.S. black-white situation is seething, black-Jewish relations are at their most delicate in years and U.S. legislative support for Israel was just badly eroded at the November 4 elections.

Mr. Dayan may indeed have the "right" to "say what I think," but not at the direct expense of millions of American Jews *vis-à-vis* their black countrymen, or millions of Israelis *vis-à-vis* their U.S. friends and supporters.

LOUIS POLLACK
Jerusalem.

AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERSHIP

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The standing of the United States in the eyes of the world and in its own eyes is not on a very high level, notwithstanding hopes raised by their recent change in leadership. Similarly, the American Jewish community has given the impression it also needs new leaders. Wolf Blitzer's article "Jostling for Reagan's ear" (November 13), typifies the lack of purpose and direction visible in the current American Jewish leadership, and thus is a poor reflection on the people they represent.

The article reinforces the view that American Jewish "Leaders" are not so much interested in the best ways to support Israel and the welfare of Jews in the U.S., as in their own status.

As the largest Jewish community in the world, it is now time American Jewish Leaders unite to

influence the Reagan Administration. Just as Australia looks to the U.S. for guidance, so the Jewish community here would also like to be able to look up to American Jewry.

JAMIE SMITH
Sydney, Australia.

PLEASANT SURPRISE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I have been holding a timeless credit in the amount of \$196 dated January 1965 issued by Iwanir Ltd., hoping one day to return to Israel. I finally imposed on a friend of mine to make a purchase for me.

Since the credit was almost 16 years old, she ventured hesitantly into Iwanir's, anticipating a negative response. Instead, to her surprise and pleasure, she was treated courteously, helpfully, and graciously and I am now the proud owner of a gift from Israel.

To Iwanir Ltd. in particular and the people of Israel in general, I extend my profound thanks and endless appreciation. I pray that Israel will endure forever and prosper — a beacon to humanity.

DOROTHY ZAKON
Chicago, Illinois.

B.B.B.

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — We wish to inform your readers that, on December 1, we moved our offices to Allenby Street

53A, Tel Aviv. Our new telephone number is 282528.
A. HOROVITZ, Secretary General,
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